Smart London Board: Meeting 9 May 2019

Attendees

Theo Blackwell, Chief Digital Officer for London (chair) Jeremy Skinner, GLA Nathan Pierce, GLA Stephen Lorimer, GLA Kirsten Jack, GLA Rikesh Shah, Transport for London Jim Wood, London Legacy Development Corporation Eddie Copeland, Nesta Ekaterina Lichtenstein, Project Imagine Jen Hawes-Hewitt, Accenture Volker Buscher, Arup Andy Hudson-Smith, UCL Duncan Wilson, UCL Julie Alexander, Places for People Miranda Sharp, Ordnance Survey Jarmo Eskelinen, University of Edinburgh Lucette Dements, London and Partners (observer) David Beardmore, Open Data Institute (guest) Jack Hardinges, Open Data Institute (guest)

Apologies

Claire Maugham, Smart DCC Ben Johnson, Senior Adviser to the Mayor of London– Business and Digital Omid Shiraji, LB Camden Linda O'Halloran, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

Welcome (Theo Blackwell)

The Chief Digital Officer and Jen Hawes-Hewitt welcomed everyone to the Smart London Board and the Accenture offices. London Councils have appointed Smart London Board member Eddie Copeland of Nesta as the first director of the London Office of Technology and Innovation.

Data trusts, artificial intelligence and data ethics (Jack Hardinges / Eddie Copeland)

Jack Hardinges, Policy Advisor, Open Data Institute, presented their report scoping a city-led data trust with the GLA and RB Greenwich. They determined that a data trust is a legal structure as a form of stewardship. They recommended that a data trust should 1) define a clear purpose 2) well-understand incentives and 3) starting small and proving need. Discussion followed on mandated data trusts, commercial models, and difficulties of the public sector signing sharing agreements with big tech.

Eddie Copeland, Director of Government Innovation, Nesta, presented the results of the London-Helsinki summit on AI. The conclusions were that the public sector needs to determine 1) questions it asks 2) methods to develop problems and solutions 3) training programmes needed and 4) processes for involving people. Discussion followed on how to present these ideas to the GLA Family and boroughs and for City Hall to make commitments for more research.

The Mayor's cyber security strategy (Kirsten Jack)

Kirsten Jack, Cyber security policy officer, GLA, presented the development of the Mayor's cyber security strategy. The emerging strategy focuses on 1) safer citizens 2) protecting public services 3) helping businesses invest in cyber and 4) promoting the growth of the cyber sector. Discussion followed on the next steps developing policies and programmes in City Hall, and how to engage partners for implementation and mobilising outreach.

London's Digital Twins (Jeremy Skinner)

Jeremy Skinner, Assistant Director for Infrastructure, Growth, and Intelligence, GLA, introduced the concept of a digital twin, or twins, of urban systems in London, focusing on 1) current GLA projects 2) the role of the GLA as an honest broker and 3) ethical considerations. Discussion followed on caution using results from these models, examples of digital twins that have languished on the shelf and the need to maintain them, the role of the GLA as effectively a data trust for digital twins, articulating the benefits, use case and/or business case, and the need to customise, amend, and adapt in 'real time'.

Cleared by: Theo Blackwell, Chief Digital Officer for London

Lead Officer: Stephen Lorimer, Smart London Strategy and Delivery Officer, Intelligence Unit