

Smart London Board: Meeting of 17 January

Major points of discussion

- On 17 January, the Smart London Board met to discuss the [upcoming launch of the Mayor's listening exercise on 23 January for his next Smart London Plan](#) and to receive an update on the development of a London Office of Technology and Innovation. The Board was welcomed by the co-hosts who share the Urban Innovation Centre – Jarmo Eskelinen of the Future Cities Catapult and Miranda Sharp of the Ordinance Survey.
- Theo Blackwell reviewed the brainstorming session held with the Smart London Board on 13 December. At the brainstorming meeting, the board wanted a plan with ideas and programmes with measurable impacts, a plan that builds tech foundations and meet London's challenges simultaneously, making a 'living' strategy that can be updated instead of a written document, and to start the listening exercise with City Hall and board member networks and widen out to public over time. *The board reflected that the plan:*
 - Needs to strike a balance between being practical and aspirational;
 - Can connect to smart cities projects in other UK cities;
 - Flag up to different audiences and/or sectors why the plan is relevant to them;

Theo's response was that there are some operational actions from the mayor's strategies that support the plan (for example, smart meters in the environment strategy), but it should clearly say what the plan can do to support what is world-leading and special about London (for example, how to combine the universities' skills in data analytics and delivering skills to develop knowledge about delivering digital skills in the further education sector).

- Theo Blackwell presented his [public discussion paper](#) requesting the Board's approval and setting the scene for the development of a new Smart London Plan. The paper focuses on five policy areas for responses from stakeholders: (1) City-wide collaboration & innovation (2) a new deal for city data (3) World-class connectivity (4) Digital capability & skills and (5) Openness & responsible tech. A more public engagement programme is in development. *The board reflected that the plan needs to:*
 - Clearly say how it is relevant to the vulnerable and disadvantaged through measurable social outcomes;
 - How to shape the market to get past pilot projects and scale up
 - How can this be a positive message during Brexit.

Theo's response was that the plan needs to grasp the potential of technology. It can't claim to know all that is coming or pick winners, but we can present some practical actions and examples. Andrew Collinge's response was that we should say what makes London a lead Smart City – its business brain, artificial intelligence, and financing capabilities, so public services can invest in new technology in partnership with private sector and European Investment Bank

- Andrew Collinge updated the board on the completion of the scoping study for a London Office of Technology and Innovation. Theo Blackwell will discuss next steps with the Chief Executives' London Committee on 23 January.

Actions

1. For the board to arrange meetings with members of their professional network during the listening exercise up to end March 2018
2. City Hall will internally convene officers from the GLA and GLA Family to arrange meetings with their own professional and community networks during the listening exercise
3. To hold the next board meeting near the completion of the listening exercise.

Cleared by: Theo Blackwell, Chief Digital Officer

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

Appendix - The Smart London Board *updated job titles in italics* ~~resignations struck through~~

The Board is the Mayor's top line-up of experts – including leading academics, businesses and entrepreneurs – to advise on how London can put digital technology at the heart of making the capital an even better place to live, work and invest.

Interim Chair: Theo Blackwell, Chief Digital Officer, Greater London Authority

The members of the board are:

- Julie Alexander, Director of Urban Development and Smart Cities Lead, Siemens
- Dr. Volker Buscher, Director, Arup Digital
- Eddie Copeland, Director of Government Innovation, Nesta
- Jarmo Eskelinen, Chief Innovation & Technology Officer (CITO), Future Cities Catapult
- Jen Hawes-Hewitt, Global Cities Management Consulting Lead Director, Accenture Health and Public Service
- ~~Charlotte Holloway, Digital Policy expert and former techUK Policy Director (Labour Parliamentary Candidate for Plymouth Moor View)~~
- Professor Andrew Hudson-Smith, Director, Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis (CASA) at University College London
- Sabrina Kavanagh, Researcher, Hansard Society, Associate Content Developer, Toynbee Hall, and Lecturer in Law, University of London
- Ekaterina Lichtenstein, *Director of Urban Insight, Project Imagine*
- Alwin Magimay, Digital Partner, McKinsey
- Claire Maugham, *independent communications consultant*
- Linda O'Halloran, *Advisor, National, International and Research Group, Government Digital Service*
- Professor John Polak, Professor of Transport Demand and Director of the Urban Systems Laboratory, Imperial College London
- Miranda Sharp, Smart Cities Practice Lead, Ordnance Survey
- Omid Shiraji, Chief Information Officer, London Borough of Camden

- Dr. Duncan Wilson, *independent innovation and technology consultant*