



Engineering and Physical Sciences
Research Council



PROGRAMME ADVISORY BOARD

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME ADVISORY BOARD MEETING NOTES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS: 16 June 2017

CS5&6, EPSRC, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon, SN2 1ET.

Attendees

Chair: Hazel Hall, Edinburgh Napier University
Alan Brown, University of Surrey
Alun Preece, Cardiff University
Siân John, Symantec Corporation
Sarah Meiklejohn, University College London (items 1-4)
Mark Plumbley, University of Surrey
Awais Rashid, University of Lancaster
Clare Reddington, Watershed
Nicola Searle, Goldsmiths, University of London
Danae Stanton-Fraser, University of Bath
Chris Speed, University of Edinburgh
Peter Waggett, IBM UK Ltd
Marko Balabanovic, Digital Catapult

RCUK/Innovate UK Staff:

Claire Tansley, Senior Portfolio Manager, DE Theme, EPSRC
Miriam Dowle, Senior Portfolio Manager, DE Theme, EPSRC
John Baird, Digital Economy Theme Leader, EPSRC
Tracy Keys, Portfolio Manager, DE Theme, EPSRC
Jason Morgan, Portfolio Manager and PAB Secretary, DE Theme, EPSRC
Charlotte Dormer, ESRC
Steven Browning, Lead Technologist, Digital, Innovate UK (conference call: item 3)

Apologies:

Peter Cowling, University of York
Mary Lumkin, BT Technology
Gabriel Straub, notonthehighstreet.com
m.c.schraefel, University of Southampton
Richard Harper, Social Shaping Research Ltd
Andrew Hudson-Smith, University College London
Thomas Trehwella, AHRC
Heather Williams, AHRC
Bruce Jackson, ESRC
Cheryl Norcross – EPSRC (Delivery Support Team, Grants)
Ruth Slade, Support, DE Theme, EPSRC
Natalia Davie – BEIS

Introduction

At this one-day meeting in Swindon, the Digital Economy (DE) Theme Programme Advisory Board (PAB) discussed recent and ongoing DE Theme activities via a Theme Update, an update on the Industrial Strategy, refreshed priority areas for Centres for Doctoral Training, and DE Theme plans.

1. Welcome

Hazel Hall (Chair of the DE PAB) welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked those present to introduce themselves.

2. Theme Update

PAB members were invited to raise any points or ask any questions prompted by the minutes of the previous meeting. The PAB was updated on the progress against the action log. A brief summary was provided for each item in the update paper. PAB members were invited to raise any points or ask any questions prompted by these items. Discussion focussed on:

1. The Content Creation and Consumption call
2. The Distributed Ledgers call
3. DE Fellowships
4. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion activities
5. The Tackling Global Development Challenges Through Engineering and Digital Technology Research call
6. The Telling Tales of Engagement Competition 2016
7. The New Approaches to Data Science call
8. DE Network+s
9. Centres for Doctoral Training (CDTs)
10. DE Regional Meetings
11. The TIPS 2.0 call
12. The Cross-Disciplinary and Co-Creation call of the ICT Theme
13. An update on ESRC activity and Ways of Being in a Digital Age
14. An update on the Digital Catapult

3. Industrial Strategy

The PAB was updated on the background and motivation behind the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund, the first six challenges (Wave One) announced on the 21st April, and the process for the development of challenges for Wave Two. The PAB was invited to discuss the information available to date.

4. CDT Priority Area Refresh

The purpose of this session was to update the participants on the EPSRC and DE CDT programme, the outcomes of the recent CDT mid-term review, how examples of best practice are currently being identified by each theme, how a 2018 CDT call will be shaped, and the scoping of refreshed EPSRC CDT priorities areas by each theme currently in progress. The PAB was then invited to provide input on prototype priorities crafted in advance by the DE Theme, and provide any additional input beyond the prototypes.

5. Digital Economy Theme Plans

The purpose of this session was to ensure that the meeting participants were updated on provisional plans for upcoming activities in the Digital Economy Theme for the 17/18 and 18/19 Financial Years. Discussion was focussed on the use of the portion of the budget assigned to community-led activities. The PAB were posed a potential future DE activity and invited to reflect on whether such an area should be pursued in the future.

6. Any Other Business

The next DE PAB meeting will take place on the 15th November 2017 at the EPSRC offices in Swindon. An All SATs Conference will take place in Manchester on the 11th and 12th September 2017.

It was suggested that a future PAB meeting be held in London.

Final Meeting Agenda

16th June

	Time	Agenda item	
1	10:30	<u>Welcome</u>	Hazel Hall
2	10:40	<u>Theme Update</u>	John Baird
3	12:00	<u>Industrial Strategy</u>	John Baird/Stephen Browning
	12:30	<u>Lunch</u>	
4	13:00	<u>DE CDT Priority Area Refresh</u>	John Baird
	14:30	<u>Coffee/tea</u>	
5	14:45	<u>Digital Economy Theme Plans</u>	John Baird
6	15:45	<u>Any other business</u>	John Baird
	16:00	<u>Close</u>	

Meeting Papers

Paper	Title	Agenda Item
PAB 28 Minutes	Minutes from PAB 28	2
PAB 29-1	Update on Digital Economy Activities	2
PAB 29-2	Industrial Strategy	3
PAB 29-3	DE CDT Priority Area Refresh	4
PAB 29-4	Theme plans	5

Supporting Papers

Paper	Title
Actions Log	On-going actions log for DE PAB
PAB ToR	Terms of Reference for DE PAB
PAB Bios	Biographies of PAB members