Summary of the Information and Communication Technologies Theme Strategic Advisory Team (ICT SAT) Meeting
Tuesday 26th November 2019
STEAM, Swindon

Attendees:

**ICT SAT**
- Professor Edmund Burke (OUTGOING CHAIR) - University of Leicester
- Professor Susan Stepney - University of York
- Professor Dimitra Simeonidou - University of Bristol
- Professor John Collomosse - University of Surrey
- Professor Danaë Stanton Fraser (LAST MEETING) - University of Bath
- Dr Vivien Kendon - Durham University
- Professor Weiru Liu - University of Bristol
- Mr Michael Hill-King - Huawei
- Professor Michael Fisher - University of Liverpool
- Professor Geoff Merrett - University of Southampton
- Dr Nick Polydorides - University of Edinburgh
- Professor Tony Kenyon (INCOMING CHAIR) - University College London
- Dr Mandie Quartly - IBM
- Professor Roger Woods - Queens University Belfast
- Professor Alan Winfield - University of the West of England

**EPSRC**
- Renée Van de Locht - Senior ICT Portfolio Manager
- Jessica Bonham - Senior ICT Portfolio Manager
- Natasha Richardson - Senior ICT Portfolio Manager
- Laura Cadman - ICT Portfolio Manager
- Rhys Perry - ICT Portfolio Manager
- Luis Lopez-Bracey - ICT Portfolio Manager
- James Coombs OBrien - ICT Portfolio Manager
- Liam Boyle - ICT/Al Portfolio Manager
- Gemma Adams - Digital Economy Portfolio
- Maryam Crabbe-Mann - ICT Portfolio Manager
- Alex Shevchuk - ICT Portfolio Manager
- Gavin Mapstone - Head of Finance
- Anna Angus-Symth - Head of AI and Robotics
1. Agenda

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Session lead</th>
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<tr>
<td>From 09:15</td>
<td><strong>Arrival and Coffee</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>09:45</td>
<td><strong>Welcome &amp; Introductions</strong></td>
<td>Edmund Burke, Renée Van de Locht</td>
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<td>10:00</td>
<td><strong>Cross-ICT Priorities – next steps</strong></td>
<td>Jessica Bonham, Renée Van de Locht</td>
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<td>11:15</td>
<td><strong>Break and Refreshments</strong></td>
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<td>11:30</td>
<td><strong>Theme Update</strong></td>
<td>Jessica Bonham, Renée Van de Locht</td>
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<td>12:15</td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
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<td>13:15</td>
<td><strong>AI Update</strong></td>
<td>Anna Angus-Smyth</td>
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<td>14:00</td>
<td><strong>Fellowships scheme</strong></td>
<td>Melanie Buckley</td>
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<td>15:15</td>
<td><strong>Break and Refreshments</strong></td>
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<td>15:30</td>
<td><strong>Business Interaction discussion</strong></td>
<td>Jess Bonham</td>
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<td>16:00</td>
<td><strong>Wrap up and next steps</strong></td>
<td>Tony Kenyon, Renée Van de Locht</td>
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2. ICT Theme Update

The SAT were updated on several ICT Theme, EPSRC-wide and UKRI-wide schemes and projects that had occurred since the previous SAT meeting. This included updates on SETB, Centres of Excellence bids, Big Ideas and New Horizons as well as UKRI branding, directorates and governance structure.

3. Cross ICT Priorities and Future Plans

The ICT SAT took part in a facilitated session considering the future direction of the cross-ICT priorities. They answered several questions about the relevance of the current priorities and the possibility of combining or replacing them with new ones proposed by the ICT theme. They were presented with potential alternatives and a more general discussion on communication of cross-ICT priorities to the community also took place. This included how best to use the cross-ICT priorities to promote responsible research and innovation and the need to involve early career researchers in the conversation.

4. AI Update

The SAT were updated by Anna Angus-Smyth on the AI review, growth of the AI field and how the EPSRC is aiding in its development. This included how the EPSRC AI and Robotics team are linked with ICT and the current workstreams being conducted by the team including the Trustworthy Autonomous Systems call (TAS) and the groups link with the Office for AI.

5. Fellowship Scheme

A facilitated session run by the Leaders team was used to present a potential change to EPSRC fellowships to the SAT. Opportunities across career stages and feedback on the proposed new scheme were discussed.

6. Business Interaction Discussion

Discussions took place around the EPSRC’s business engagement strategy revolving around the question: What does the EPSRC want out of business engagement? Suggestions were provided on which businesses to involve and the benefits of bringing in businesses to input on the EPSRC strategy. The EPSRC’s current and future plans for Business engagement were discussed.

7. Any Other Business

The incoming chair Tony Kenyon closed the session highlighting the accelerating and exciting changes occurring at EPSRC who continue to develop a strong relationship with academia. Potential topics to include in upcoming SAT meetings include an update on the ongoing internal incorporation into a unified UKRI.