

Summary of Discussion: UKHSA Data Science Advisory Board Meeting 28th January 2022

14:30-15:30 [held virtually]

Chair: Wendy Hall (points 1-3), Johanna Hutchinson (points 4 -6)

1. Previous minutes were signed off and agreed

- Professor Alison Heppenstall and Professor Mark Parsons sent their apologies.
- Confirmed that previous minutes (26th November 2021) were signed off and published in January.

2. Presentation: Licence to Operate Programme

- Presentation given by Tina Clapham and Karl Straw.
- Information Management, Data Governance and Privacy (IMP) function supports, empowers and enables data scientist functions within UKHSA to harness information assets in a way that is ethical, lawful and builds public trust.
- Emphasised how proper management and privacy for data within UKHSA is essential for trust internally and externally.
- The Licence to operate programme (LTOP) business case is based on improving efficiency and hopes to ensure transparency to publish data in a standardised way.

3. Discussion

- Need to ensure programme encourages and enables sharing of data between organisations, working across boundaries.
- Board members were encouraged to see an infrastructure and system in place to make it as easy as possible for robust data management.
- Comments from board members that system should be designed with a wider audience in mind, to ensure the system is as accessible as possible, and provides a trusted research environment.

4. DSAB Review

- Discussion was framed as an opportunity to take stock of DSAB, understand what is working well and what could be improved to maximise the expertise of DSAB as UKHSA matures.

5. Any Other Business

- No additional points were raised.

6. Meeting outcomes

- LTOP programme to be put on the agenda for a future meeting to discuss and evolve further.
- Members who could not attend will be invited to feed into the DSAB review by email.
- Outputs of the DSAB review will be discussed at a future meeting.

Attendance:

Attendee	Role
Professor Dame Wendy Hall	Professor, Associate Vice President (International Engagement) and Executive Director (Web Science Institute), University of Southampton
Professor Daniela De Angelis	Professor of Statistical Science for Health, University of Cambridge, Deputy Director and Programme Leader at the MRC-BS
Dr Ewan Birney	Deputy Director General of EMBL, Director of EMBL-EBI
Dr Zeynep Engin	Urban Dynamics Laboratory, UCL
Dr Ben Goldacre	Director DataLab, University of Oxford
Dr Johanna Hutchinson	Director of Analysis and Data Science, UK Health Security Agency
Professor Graham Medley	Professor of Infectious Disease Modelling, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
Professor Andrew Morris	Director, Health Data Research UK
Dr Sylvia Richardson	Chair of Biostatistics, Director of MRC-BSU, University of Cambridge
Professor Simon Vosper	Executive Director of Science, Met Office
Tina Clapham	UK Health Security Agency (Presenting)
Karl Straw	UK Health Security Agency (Presenting)
Sarah Ledden	UK Health Security Agency (Presenting/Observing)
Emma Collins	UK Health Security Agency (Secretariat)
Professor Tracey Thornley	UK Health Security Agency (Secretariat)
Charlie Dunstan-Rice	UK Health Security Agency (Observing)
Dr Nick Watkins	UK Health Security Agency (Observing)