

Summary of Discussion: JBC Data Science Advisory Board Meeting, 29th January 2021, 14:00-14:50

[held virtually]

The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed and signed off.

JBC updated the Board on its work looking at:

- Epidemiological model mapping
- Wastewater Data
- Genomics
- T&T data analysis using network-based cluster detection.

Discussion points

The cluster detection work was discussed in more technical detail by the Board. There was focus around: transmission/clusters linkage; risky situations that currently increase transmission risks in local settings; scenarios where super spreading occurs; the use of social geography. The effect of a 'tight time window' of transmission was discussed, with the work of [Adam Kucharski](#) highlighted as an example of analysis looking at how overdispersion will happen in tight time window.

JBC access to data and data quality was discussed by the Board. JBC is linked to the ONS, and its work with academics and local authorities via the ONS SRS were highlighted.

The representation of JBC analysis and data visualisation was discussed. The public understanding of data visualisation is crucial for public trust, and this was highlighted as a topic for the next Board meeting. The example of how the analysis of the RNA Wastewater Data was discussed – how do you present this information geographically, whilst ensuring to consider inequalities measures underlying the data as well.

Chair nominations for future meetings were taken and Ewan Birney was elected at Chair for next quarter.

Attendance

Professor Andrew Morris	Director, Health Data Research UK– Acting Chair
Professor Sylvia Richardson	Director, Chair of Biostatistics, University of Cambridge
Professor Graham Medley	Professor of Infectious Disease Modelling, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
Professor Chris Holmes	Programme Director for Health and Medical Sciences, The Alan Turing Institute
Dr Zeynep Engin	Urban Dynamics Laboratory, UCL
Professor Simon Vosper	UK Meteorological Office
Professor Dame Wendy Hall	Professor, Associate Vice President (International Engagement) and Executive Director (Web Science Institute), University of Southampton
Dr Ewan Birney	Deputy Director General, European Bioinformatics Institute

Peter Hanby	Joint Biosecurity Centre (Presenting)
Mindaugus Uzubalis	Joint Biosecurity Centre (Presenting)
Dr James Hetherington	Chief Data Science Advisor, Joint Biosecurity Centre, Fellow – The Alan Turing Institute
Dr Johanna Hutchinson	Director of Data & Data Science, Joint Biosecurity Centre
Charlie Dunstan-Rice	Joint Biosecurity Centre (Secretariat)
Dr Isabel Bennett	Joint Biosecurity Centre (Secretariat)
Luke Bevan	Joint Biosecurity Centre (Secretariat)
Dr Tim Chadborn	Joint Biosecurity Centre (observer)
Dr Hannah Blackledge	Joint Biosecurity Centre (observer)