ODP General Meeting

4th November 2024

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Agenda

- MHCLG funding update
- Exploring regional groups
- December ODP event
- Getting involved with ODP Products
- Commercial strategy update
- Surveys

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MHCLG funding update

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MHCLG funding update

We're really pleased to have approval for several funding routes, to expand and continue lots of the good work happening all across ODP.

- Top up funding for co-design of ODP products
- Top up funding for Proptech projects
- New funding for LPAs to join and work on digital planning improvements
- New funding for strategic software projects
- New funding for LPAs to work with suppliers on our industry working group

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MHCLG funding update

We are working on the criteria and process for awarding this now and will be sharing more as soon as we can.

Key themes across all funding routes will include demonstration of impact and re-use/benefit for other LPAs.

Actions you can take now

- Make sure you have completed and submitted your monthly report
- Prepare to apply and/or interview (TBC on each route) as needed. Timescales will vary but some activity will take place before Christmas.
- Tell your LPA friends that might be interested to get in touch at digitalplanningteam@communities.gov.uk

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Exploring regional groups and December ODP event

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ODP regional groups

- ODP has always been a brilliant mixture of local and national meet ups, alongside fund-focused work. We've got *everyone* together, and we've also collaborated with our neighbours.
- We have a hypothesis to explore whether adding some structure and support to regional groupings might help *accelerate* achieving a *goal*, or bring other additional benefits.
- This wording is intentionally vague - **help us define how this might work**

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ODP regional groups - how can you shape the conversation?

- If you're passionate about the idea of an ODP regional group, we'd love your input.
- Join us online:
  - 21st November, 11am, 1 hour.
  - 13th December 2.30pm, 1 hour.
  - These sessions will be facilitated workshops where you can see some of the thinking so far, give feedback and suggest your ideas.
  - Look out for more details on slack to sign up

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ODP regional groups - our first meet up

- If you're based in London or the South East, we're going to explore the idea of an ODP regional group at our next event, kindly hosted by the Connected Places Catapult,
- We'd love your input here too!
- Join us on 5th December in Clerkenwell, London.
  - Look out for more details on slack to sign up
  - Invite your neighbours to join

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ODP regional groups - our first meet up

This is our first meet up and we'd love more! Let your community manager know if you have a **space** we can use for meet ups, of if you are part of an **active network** of LPAs already.

The aim of this is to start small and build a strong foundation before expanding our reach.

We want to ensure that groups are well-supported and effective, allowing us to learn and adapt. We truly value everyone's contributions, and this approach helps us create something meaningful for all of ODP.

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ODP regional groups - what else is coming?

- More in-person meet ups
- More guidance and support - we'll use the outputs of the online workshops and London event to shape support that benefits everyone.
- More groups - ODP is for everyone, realistic and ambitious! If you think you can benefit from establishing an ODP group in your region, you'll have the support and mechanisms to do so.

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How to get involved in ODP products

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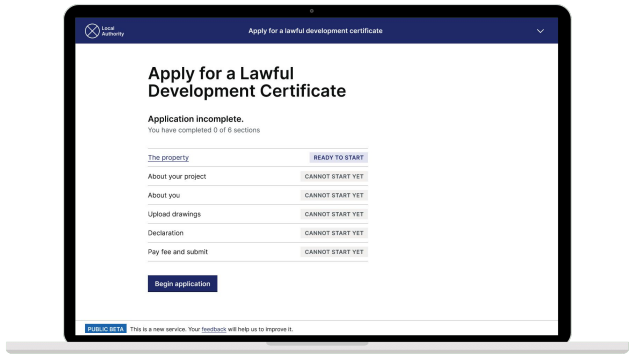
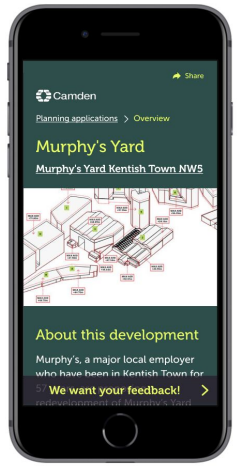
The ODP Product Suite





PlanX: Application submission and guidance services

BOPS: Back Office Planning System

Digital Site Notice / Digital Planning Register

Find out more - end to end demo in show and tell on Wednesday 6th of November!

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How to find out more?

Monthly Intro Session

What is it? A regularly scheduled session with product partners to **demo** the products, and for you to ask **questions** or gather further information on your particular circumstances in order to establish if the products are a good fit for your council

How to join? Contact your **community manager** to find out when the next one is and to get an invitation or complete the **expression of interest form**

BOPS - Nov 18th 1pm
PlanX - Nov 20th 11am
DSN/ DPR - Nov 20th 2pm

Join the Product Community

What is it? A like minded community of LPAs that are involved in the design, development and adoption of the ODP products, or just exploring the space

How to join? Contact the product **community manager** (Matt Brooks) to find out more and get invitations to relevant ceremonies

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The path to product adoption

At a high level, these are the steps and actions that will be undertaken to join the product journey

1	2	3	4	5
Regular **Q&A/ demo** sessions scheduled with product partners to **find out more** and **answer your questions**	**Express your interest** to get started **Submitted via our Microsoft Form**	Start work on the ODP product **prerequisites** - and join the next intake	Product specific **onboarding** journeys with product partners to support your implementation	Set-up and launch one or more products **We'd love to highlight your successes!**

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Open Digital Planning prerequisites

Before you get started with product partners, there are a few things that are needed to help yourselves, partners and ODP with a smooth implementation:

- Complete an **intro to ODP** session (new to ODP councils only)
- **Metrics and Evaluation** onboarding session
    - **Baseline** data gathering started
- Identify, improve and **publish data sets** to planning.data.gov.uk
- Join and engage with the Open Digital Planning **Community**
- Outline your **adoption plan** and provisional timelines

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Implementation Partner Onboarding

Each product has an implementation partner that supports it - and each tool has different steps to get started

- Whilst you are completing the ODP prerequisites, product partners will be in touch to set up **product specific onboarding** sessions
- Each product has a different **commercial** and pricing model - which is agreed between LPA and product partner
- Alongside your ODP onboarding - we will batch up LPAs for the next **intake** or cohort (depending on volume)
- You will then begin the process of **implementing** your product(s) - whilst staying part of the ODP product community and the wider ODP community
- We would love to **celebrate your success** and shout about it when you are ready!

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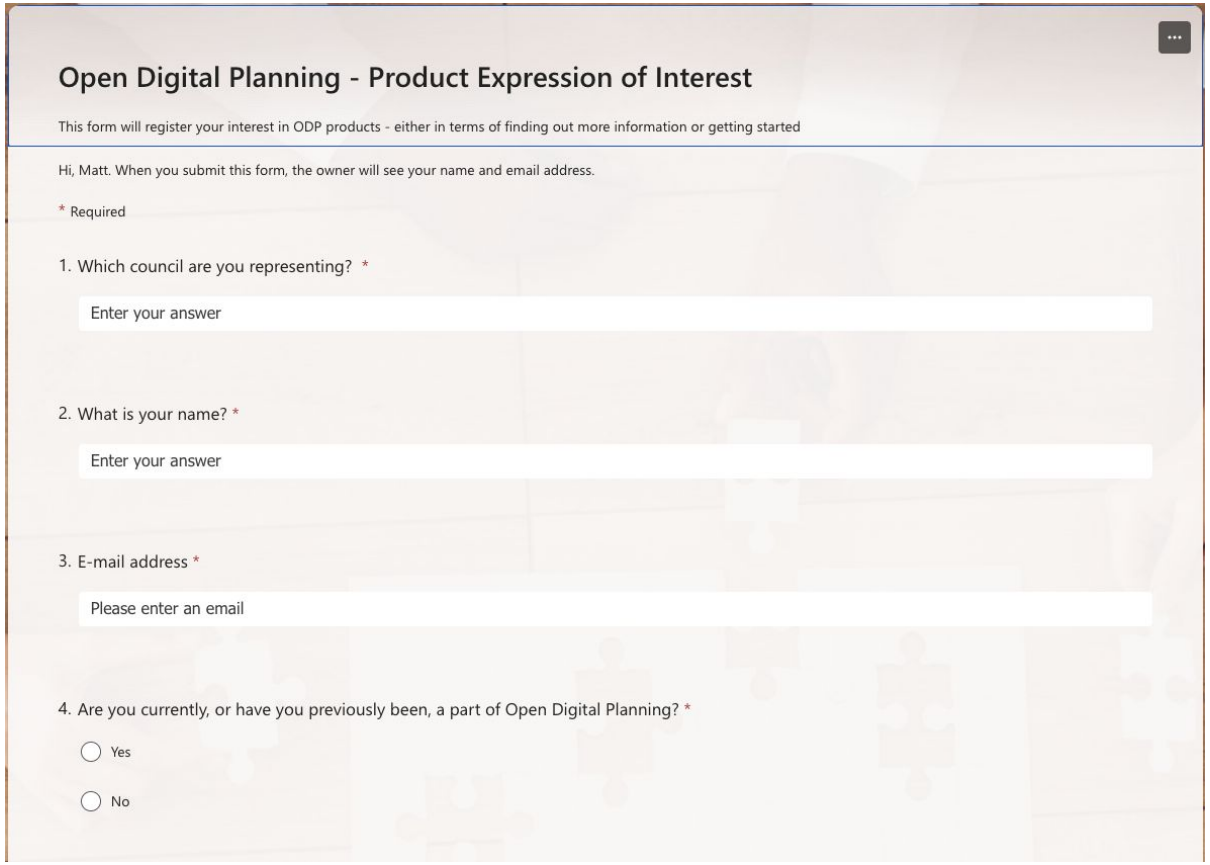
Open Digital Planning prerequisites



Open Digital Planning - Product Expression of Interest

This form will register your interest in ODP products - either in terms of finding out more information or getting started

Hi, Matt. When you submit this form, the owner will see your name and email address.

* Required

1. Which council are you representing? *

Enter your answer

2. What is your name? *

Enter your answer

3. E-mail address *

Please enter an email

4. Are you currently, or have you previously been, a part of Open Digital Planning? *

Yes

No

https://forms.office.com/e/r0AWSZ3JKg

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Commercial strategy update

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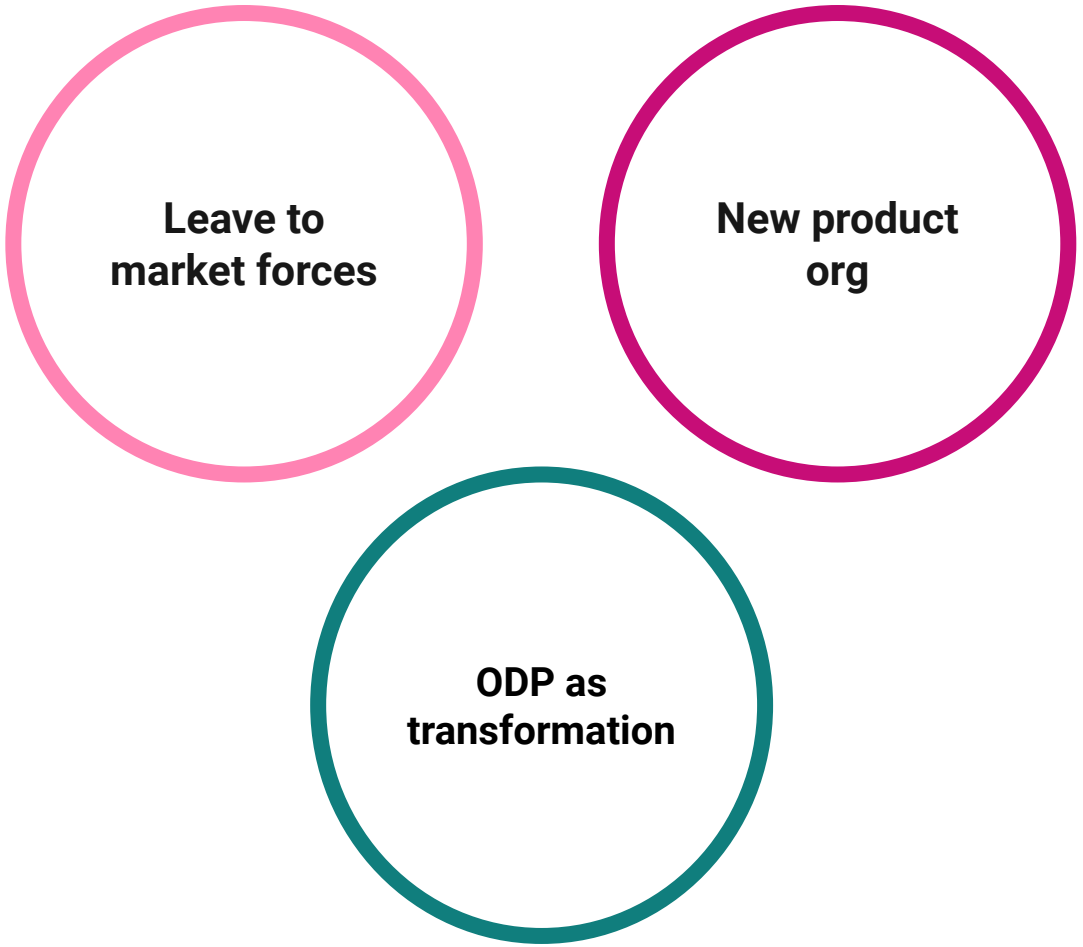
Three possible futures



These draw from :

- 8 recent interviews and an away day with LPAs
- Ongoing ODP community building
- Experience of spinning out LocalGov Drupal from CLG funding

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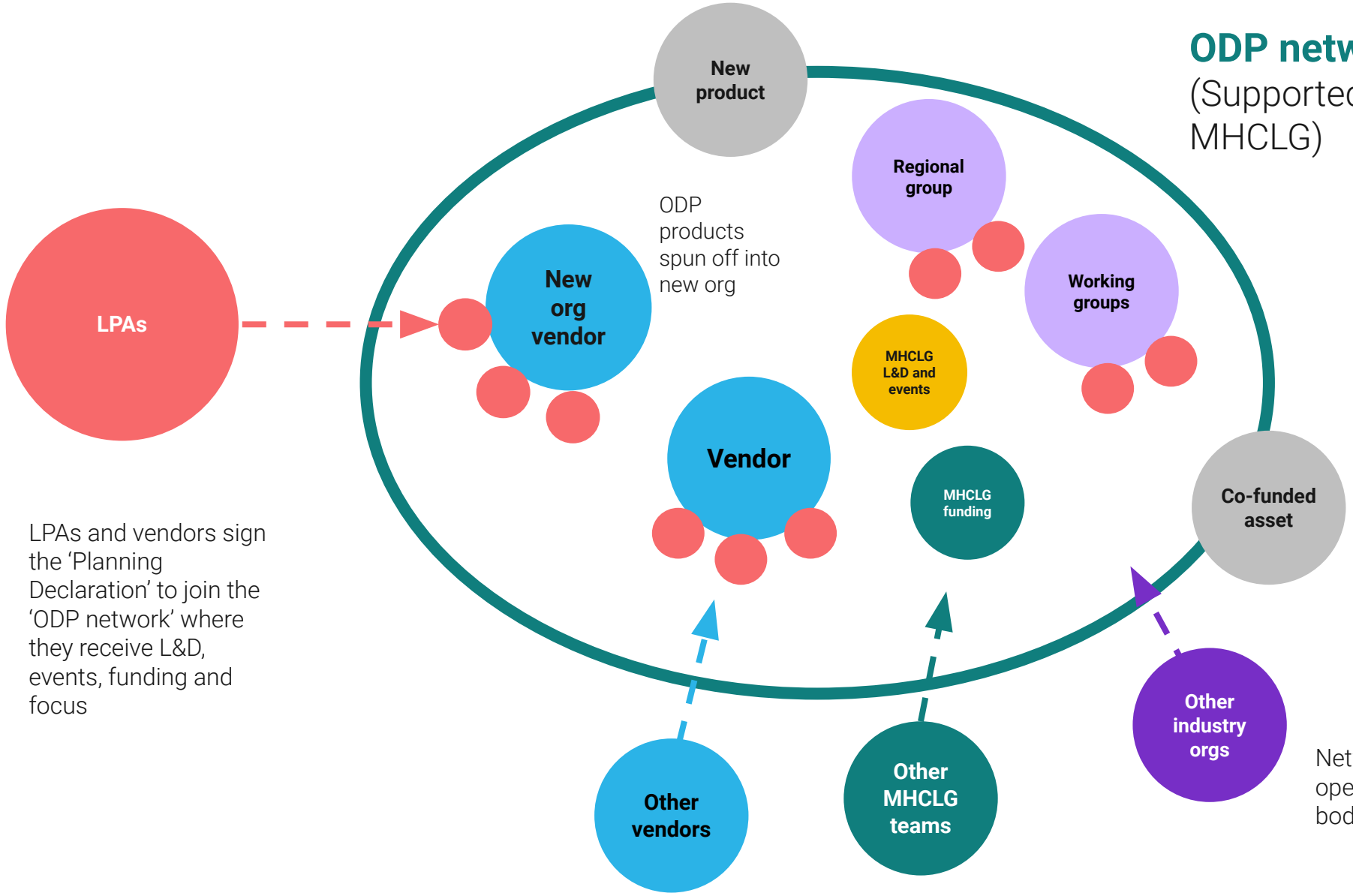
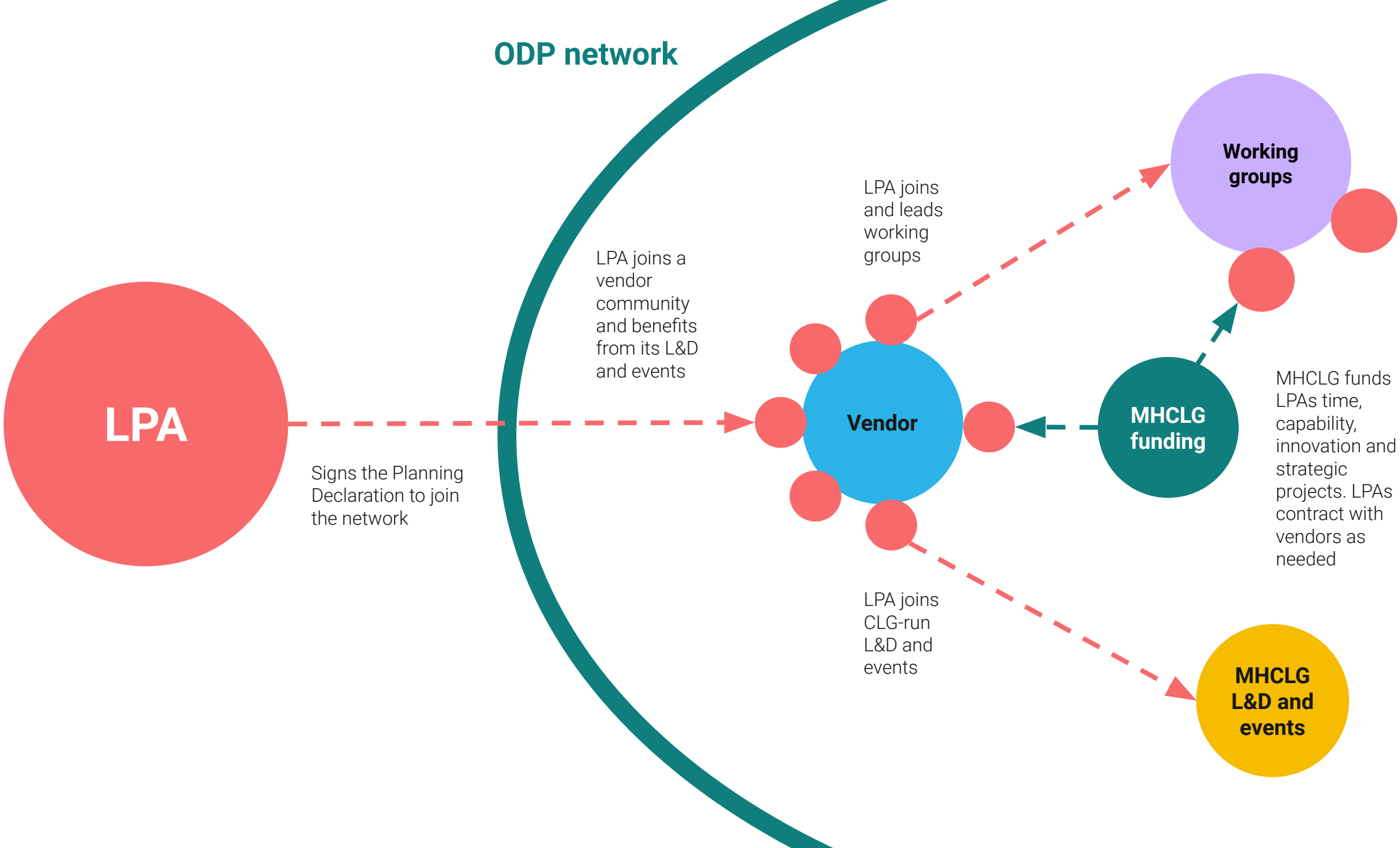
ODP network
(Supported by MHCLG)



LPAs and vendors sign the 'Planning Declaration' to join the 'ODP network' where they receive L&D, events, funding and focus

The network is flexible with new products, assets and ways of working emerging over time

Network membership is open to any planning body or supplier


ODP network
LPA
Signs the Planning Declaration to join the network
LPA joins a vendor community and benefits from its L&D and events
Vendor
LPA joins and leads working groups
Working groups
MHCLG funding
MHCLG funds LPAs time, capability, innovation and strategic projects. LPAs contract with vendors as needed
LPA joins CLG-run L&D and events
MHCLG L&D and events

Work this quarter

- Discussing spin out options and agreeing an approach
  - Initially with Lambeth, Camden, Bucks and suppliers
  - Forming a working group of interested LPAs and suppliers to do the work
  - Picked Dec 2025 as a start date
  - Dependency on product being adoptable (working with Emily and product teams) which influences build and team running costs

- Creating the ‘pledge’
  - Includes definition of ‘modern planning software’ (supporting Joe)

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#odp-commercial-strategy

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Surveys and research are important

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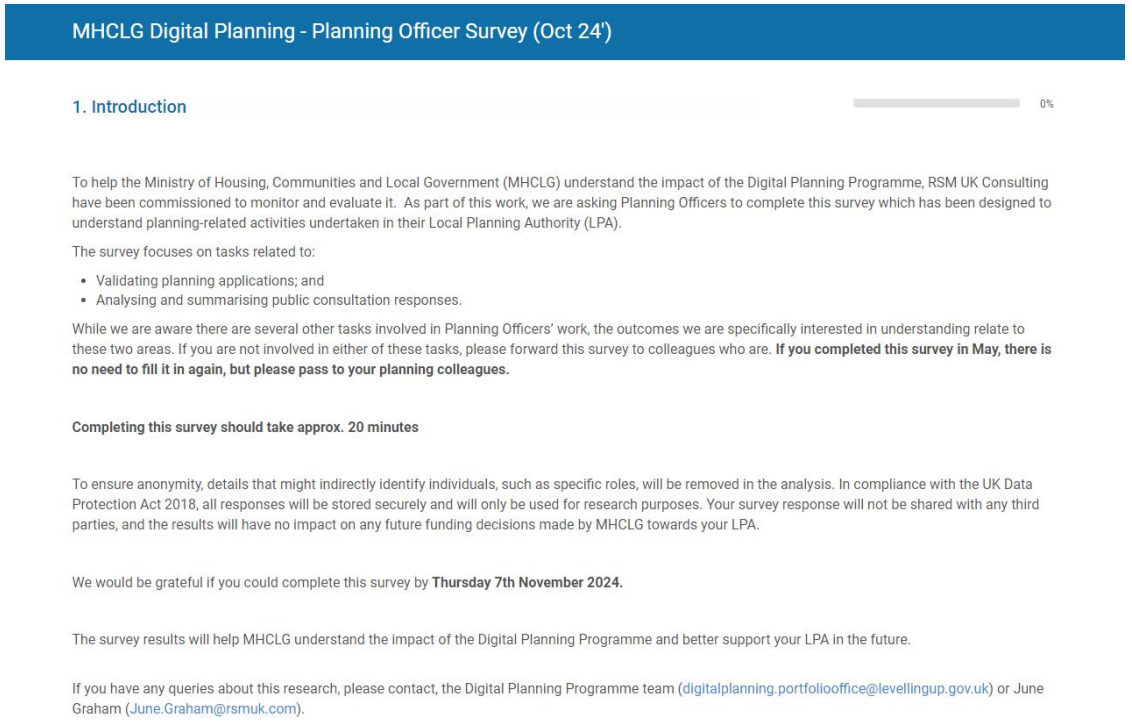
RSM survey

- The survey has been designed to understand planning-related activities planning officers undertake in their LPA
- Its based on each officer's personal experiences
- It requires no other information and should take 10 – 15 minutes



MHCLG Digital Planning - Planning Officer Survey (Oct 24')

1. Introduction 0%

To help the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) understand the impact of the Digital Planning Programme, RSM UK Consulting have been commissioned to monitor and evaluate it. As part of this work, we are asking Planning Officers to complete this survey which has been designed to understand planning-related activities undertaken in their Local Planning Authority (LPA).

The survey focuses on tasks related to:

- Validating planning applications; and
- Analysing and summarising public consultation responses.

While we are aware there are several other tasks involved in Planning Officers' work, the outcomes we are specifically interested in understanding relate to these two areas. If you are not involved in either of these tasks, please forward this survey to colleagues who are. **If you completed this survey in May, there is no need to fill it in again, but please pass to your planning colleagues.**

Completing this survey should take approx. 20 minutes

To ensure anonymity, details that might indirectly identify individuals, such as specific roles, will be removed in the analysis. In compliance with the UK Data Protection Act 2018, all responses will be stored securely and will only be used for research purposes. Your survey response will not be shared with any third parties, and the results will have no impact on any future funding decisions made by MHCLG towards your LPA.

We would be grateful if you could complete this survey by **Thursday 7th November 2024.**

The survey results will help MHCLG understand the impact of the Digital Planning Programme and better support your LPA in the future.

If you have any queries about this research, please contact, the Digital Planning Programme team (digitalplanning.portfoliooffice@levellingup.gov.uk) or June Graham (June.Graham@rsmuk.com).

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Summary from today - your next steps

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Summary from today - your next steps

- **Funding**: complete your monthly report, prepare for more information to come, tell your friends.
- **ODP Regional groups**: Join an online workshop, sign up to our London event, let us know about spaces and existing networks. Look out for the EOI form if you're interested in products
- **How to get involved in ODP products**: Complete the expression of interest form.
- **Commercial strategy update**: Join #odp-commercial-strategy on slack if you are interested.
- **Surveys**: Complete them!

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Thank you!

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