

A large group of approximately 50 people, mostly young adults, are posing for a group photo on a rooftop. They are arranged in several rows, smiling at the camera. The background features a city skyline with various buildings, including a prominent clock tower and modern glass skyscrapers. The sky is clear and blue. A large, semi-transparent purple graphic element covers the left side of the image, containing the text for the event.

ODP General Meeting

11 May 2026

What's the purpose of this meeting?

- When is it? Monthly, first Monday of the month
- Who is it? Everyone involved in Open Digital Planning (over **223** LPAs, delivery partners and the MHCLG team)
- What is it for? It's our opportunity to give updates, share opportunities, showcase some of the work happening in the community, and (sometimes) bring in speakers from elsewhere that are relevant to the work we do
- Is it recorded? Yes, and we add the video to the ODP hub

Agenda

- Digital Local Plans: City of London: **Nikki Webber**
- ODP & Lake District NP Keswick Community event reflection: **Chloe Swift**
- Extract update: **Chanelle Williams and Gordon Aiken**
- Modern Digital Planning Software: **Rafael Garcia**
- ODP & Liverpool City Council: **Josh Codjoe**
- Local Government Architecture Model: **Daniel Rhodesmumby & Sam Nutt**

Digital Local Plans: City of London Corporation: Nikki Webber

A Digital Local Plan- a recap from last year...



**Why do we need
one?**

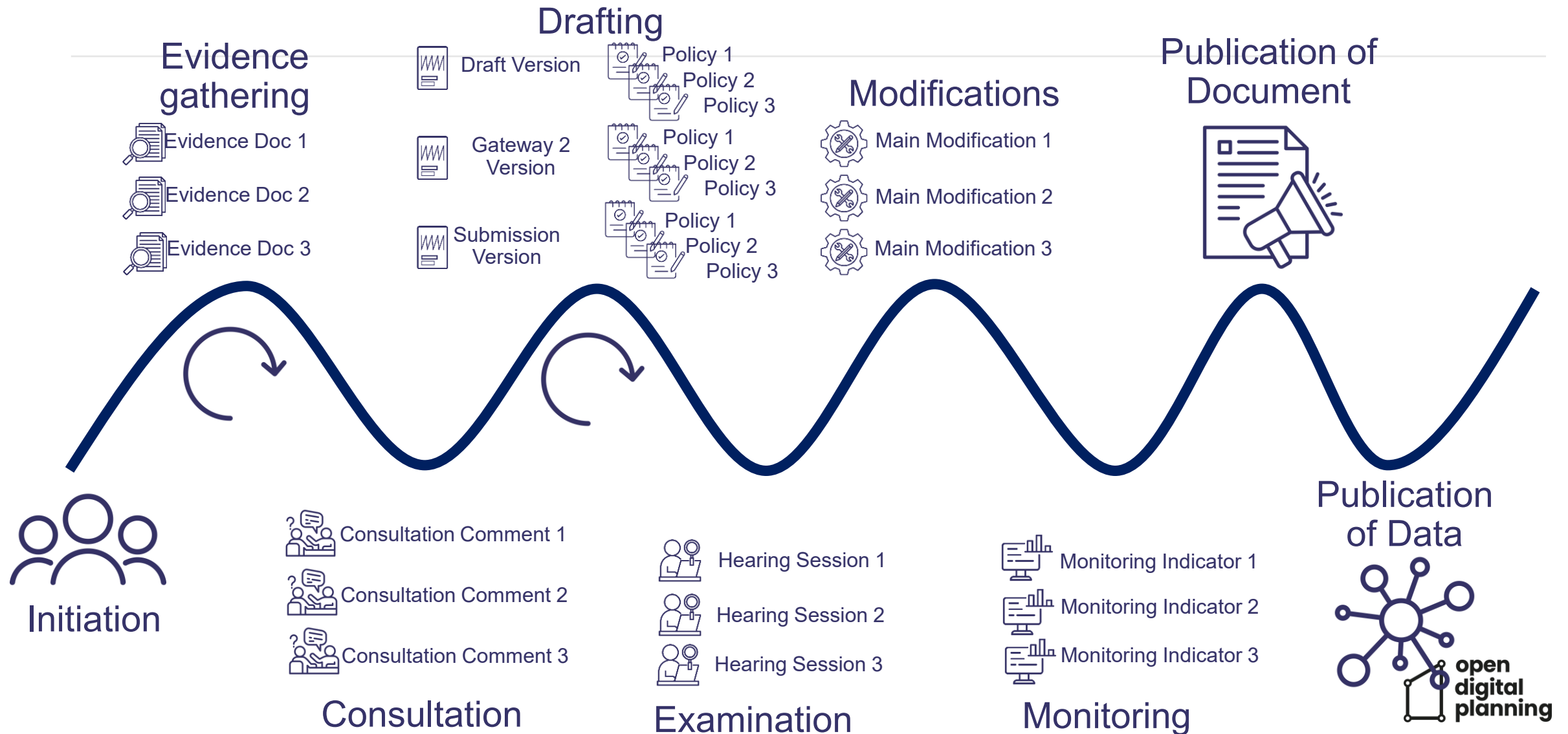


What is it?

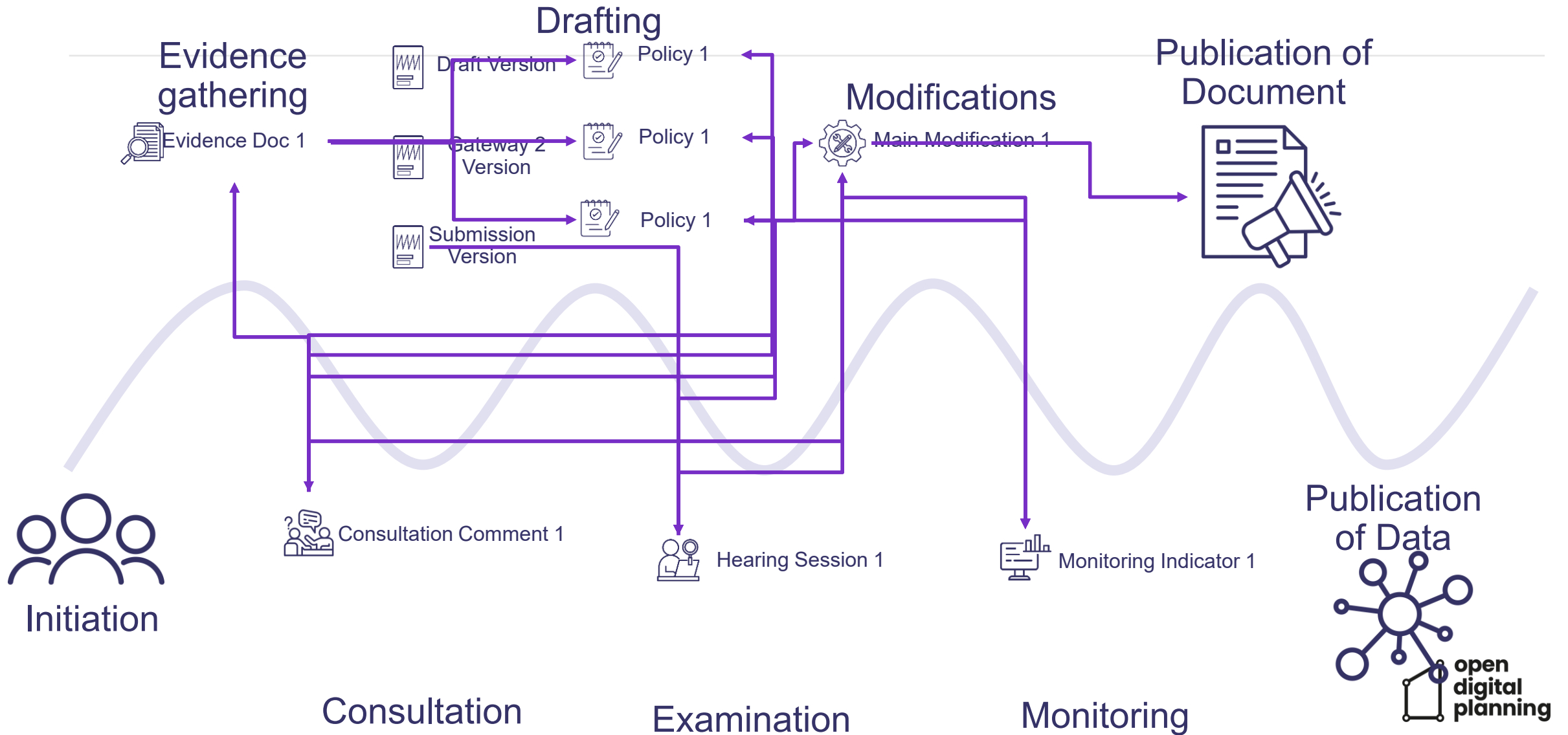


**How do we make
one?**

Our Hypothesis...



Our Hypothesis...



Our Hypothesis...

THIS Policy in **THIS** Document (covering **THIS** location?) was informed by **THIS** Evidence.

It was also informed by **THESE** Consultation Comments, **THESE** Discussions in the Hearing Sessions, and **THESE** Modifications.

THIS Policy also relates to **THESE** Monitoring Indicators, informed by **THIS** Evidence.

Since then...

Since then...

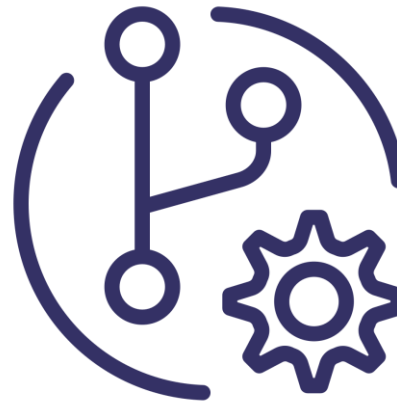


**It is not about the
document..**

Since then...



It is not about the document..

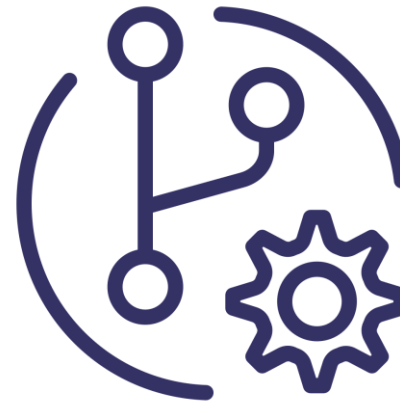


Version control is everything

Since then...



It is not about the document..



Version control is everything



PINs “buy in” matters

Since then...



Research Outcomes

- The main pain points around Local Plans do not appear to be centred around the presentation of the PDF.
- Local Authorities were not clear on what a Digital Local Plan means or is, or how they would implement one. This project will need to help define that.
- LPAs would need assurance from PINsS that they would accept Local Plan submissions in different forms.

Research Outcomes - Data

- The work MHCLG have done on Local Plan data is good – but misses some key elements which LPAs told us were important.
- What do we do if the process changes again in future?
- Our schema needs to be modular and solve some of the things that LPAs think are missing.

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2026 No. 420

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING, ENGLAND

The Planning Data (England) Regulations 2026

Made at 8.45 a.m. on 16th April 2026
 Laid before Parliament at 4.30 p.m. on 16th April 2026
 Coming into force 7th May 2026

The Secretary of State makes these Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 84(1) and 86(1) of the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023(1).

Statutory guidance

Publish your plan data

Published 16 April 2026

Applies to England

Contents

[How to publish your data](#)
[Meet the approved data standard](#)
[Plan dataset](#)
[Plan timetable dataset](#)

 [Print this page](#)

This approved data standard relates to The Planning Data (England) Regulations 2026.

For plans under the legacy plan-making system

If you are submitting your plan under the legacy system, use the [create or update a local plan legacy system guidance](#).

The legacy system covers plans to be adopted under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, excluding the amendments made by the LURA, and [The Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2026](#).

You must [follow the approved data standard](#) to publish your plan timetable and your housing requirement, so that you meet the requirements of the Planning Data (England) Regulations 2026. This will help you to meet the requirements of the [Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2026](#).

To meet the timetable requirement, you must publish both your [plan dataset](#) and [plan timetable dataset](#). The housing requirements is part of the plan dataset.



What Did The Private Sector Say?



What Did The Private Sector Say?

- Which policies have which status at which time?
- Version control is critical.
- Relationships between documents is important – which supersedes which?
- It is wider than just Local Plans – you need to understand the whole policy context – ***definitely out of scope for this project...***
- How have things changed?

What Happens Now?



**Welcome our supplier
& share our research
(user journey, data
schema, research
summary report)**



**Connect with
PINs**

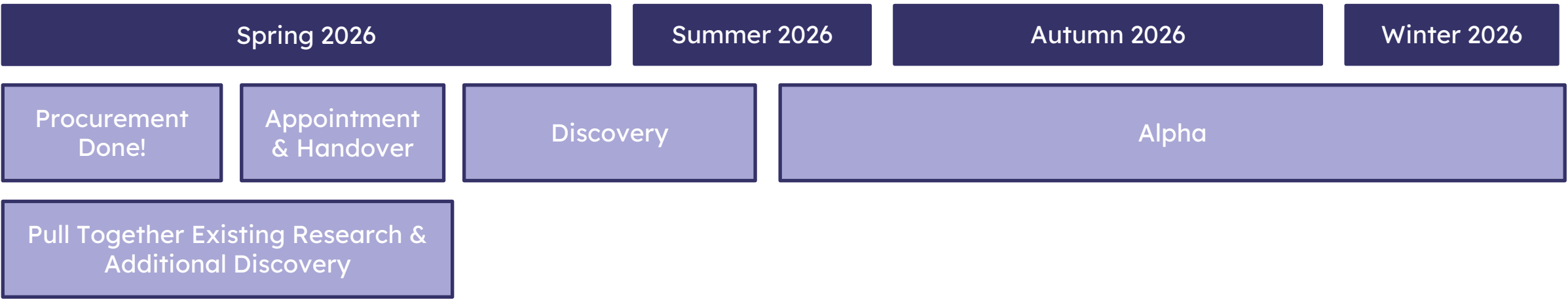


Discovery



Alpha

Timeline



Any questions, or if you'd like to be involved or keep up to date with the project, please reach out.

Slack

Email:

nicola.webber@cityoflondon.gov.uk



Lake District Event Wash Up: Chloe Swift

ODP Spring Event – Keswick, Lake District

26th March 2026





Extract is coming:

What is Extract?

A simple way to turn historic planning documents into usable digital data

- Extract is an AI-powered tool developed by MHCLG Digital Planning Programme in partnership with i.AI
- It helps Local Planning Authorities turn scanned PDFs, historic maps and paper records into structured planning data
- Think of it as a helping hand for some of the most time-consuming digitisation work

Current focus

- Conservation Areas
- Article 4 Directions
- Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs)

Why was it created?

- Across England, valuable planning information is often locked away in PDFs and scans
- Many councils spend **huge amounts** of time manually tracing, validating and recreating historic records
- Extract is designed to reduce that manual effort and make planning data easier to work with

Why should LPAs care?

Because nobody came into planning to spend hours tracing old PDFs...

- Planning and GIS teams already have enough on their plates
- Extract is designed to help reduce repetitive admin and manual GIS work
- Tasks that can take hours manually can often be completed much faster (very impressive metrics coming soon)

What could this help with?

- Speeding up digitisation of historic planning records
- Creating cleaner, more reusable planning data
- Supporting better digital services for residents and applicants
- **Freeing up officer time for higher-value planning work**

Important to know

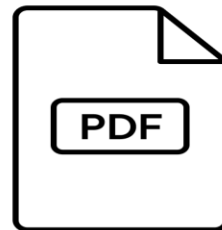
- **Extract supports officers — it does not replace them**
- Planning and GIS officers still review, validate and approve outputs
- Councils stay fully in control of their data and decisions

How does it work?

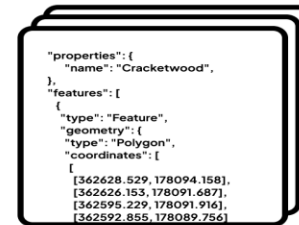
A simple workflow



Paper documents



Scanned to PDF



Converted to structured data,
stored locally



Structured data available for
download from an endpoint i.e.
PDP

Inset exciting demo here

((stunned silence/audible gasps))

We are looking for 30 LPAs to:

- Upload PDFs, scanned maps or historic planning records – TPOs, Article 4, conservation documents
 - To identify and digitise the extracted boundaries, polygons and planning information
 - To review and feedback to the team
 - Export usable GIS and planning data
-
- Please email DigitalPlanningTeam@communities.gov.uk with your availability between now (31/05)

Modern Digital Planning Software: Rafael Garcia

Modern Digital Planning Software - update

- What good looks like - 21st century software used in planning
- To be used as a reference point for LPAs and suppliers
- It does not replace procurement due diligence and detailed requirements
- Iterative development with LPAs, software suppliers, Local Digital, GDS and cross-government group
- Now in Beta! Soft market testing coming up (or recent)? Get in touch with michael.mentessi1@communities.gov.uk or via Slack
- Join our activity at the ODP event in Liverpool

Liverpool Event Essential Guide: Josh Codjoe

Local Government Architecture

Model: Daniel Rhodes-Mumby & Sam Nutt



Department for
Science, Innovation
& Technology

GDS Local: Co-developing the Local Government Architecture Model (LGAM)

Daniel Rhodes-Mumby, Lead Technologist
Sam Nutt, Digital Strategy Lead

The logo consists of a dark blue square with rounded corners. Inside the square, on the left, is a small white crown icon followed by the text 'GDS' in white. To the right of this is a bright cyan circle containing the word 'Local' in white.

GDS Local



GDS LOCAL

- Provide sector vision on buying, backing, and building technology
- Unlock useable, sharable data for councils and service delivery partners
- Catalyse common component adoption and de-risk reuse

“Launched in November 2025, GDS Local is a new team within the Government Digital Service to work more effectively with local government, spark innovation and play a pivotal role in public service transformation.”





Co-developing a vision with the sector

- Engaged with councils face-to-face: Welsh CTOs in Cardiff, the MDC in Sheffield, LocalGovCamp in Leeds, and visits including to Somerset and Westminster.
- Ran monthly “Sourcing the Stack” webinars which are open to anyone working in local government
- Ran five workshops with architects in councils and vendors which were purposely small so we could take a deep dive with subject matter experts on architecture,
- Ran a morning of workshops with techUK which around 70 vendors attended in person.
- Working closely with the LGA, and are talking to SocITM and iNetwork.
- We’re also starting to join things up across Government, for example on DfE’s DCoE with DHSC, MHCLG Local Digital, AI, and Planning.



Why did we think an architecture model was needed?

Following engagement with the sector and desk research, we learned that:

- Councils are at very different maturity levels – few have a formalised technical architecture
- Documents range from digital plans in spreadsheets to fully governed enterprise models
- **There was a clear opportunity for a shared framework that provides a consistent way to understand, describe, and align how local government technology supports service delivery and the overall operation of a council.**



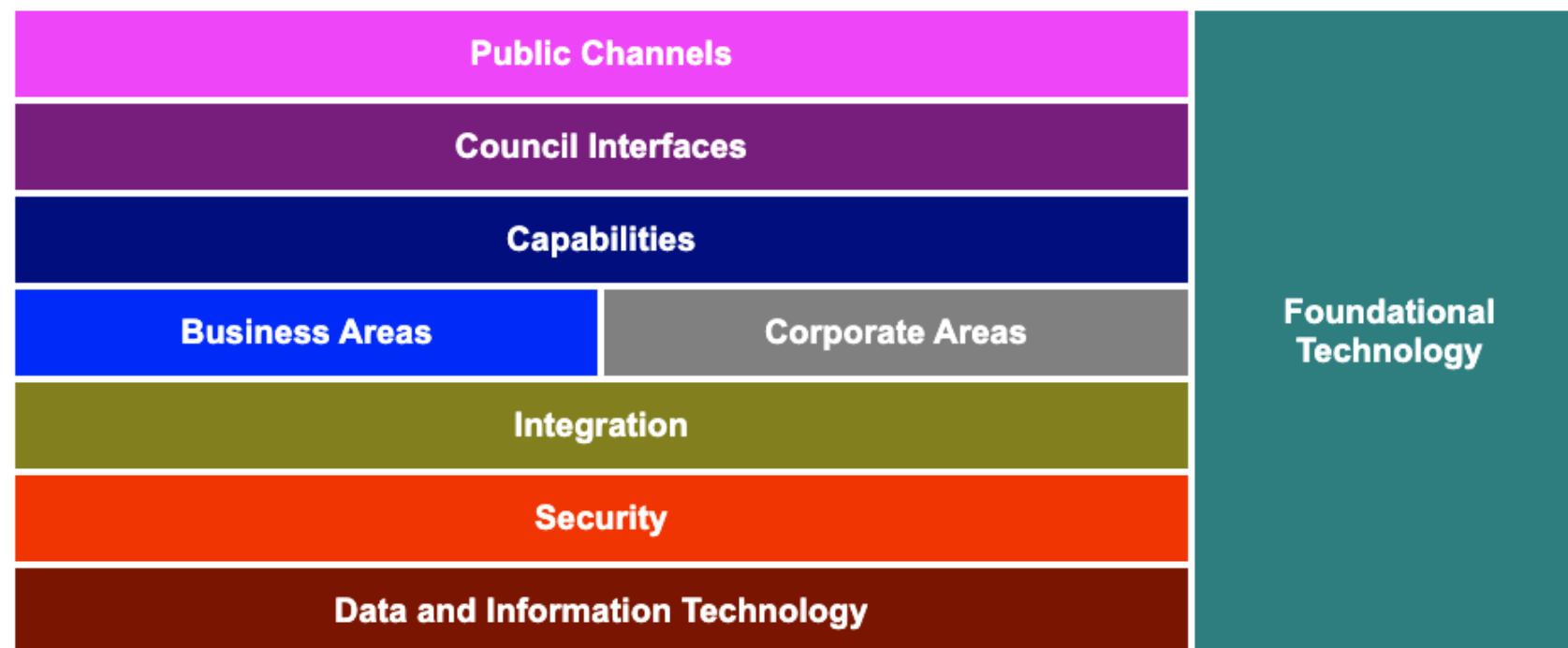
The Local Government Architecture Model

The [architecture model](#) describes the technology that councils use to deliver public services and the platforms that support them, across 9 layers.

It includes the public channels through which residents interact with councils,

to the software systems which realise public services,

to the foundational technology that powers the entire stack.





The Local Government Architecture Model

Much of the stack is now outlined. But...

We can add utility – and help councils find more value in it – by delving deeper.

Each business area is different.

Data plays differently. The market is different. The legislation is different.

We'd like pages for each business area, and we want to know – what should Planning and Development look like?

BUSINESS AREAS

Business areas cover the specific functions each council must provide. Each area features individual technology components designed for a specific need.

► Open all

► [Adult social care](#)

► [Childrens' social care](#)

► [Democratic services](#)

► [Education](#)

► [Highways and transport](#)

▼ [Housing](#)

The management of social housing, repairs, and homelessness prevention.

► [Leisure and culture](#)

▼ [Licensing and regulation](#)

The processing of alcohol, taxi, and trade licences, and environmental health enforcement.

▼ [Planning and development](#)

The processing of planning applications, building control, and local spatial planning.



Department for
Science, Innovation
& Technology

Co-developing the content

ODP and MHCLG have done great work on understanding the domain, improving the technology, building the foundations for the future.

We want the LGAM business area content to complement and highlight your work.

The GDS Local angle is how the domain, the data, the environment, and the implementations fit into the whole technology stack of a council.

So we'd like you to help us get the content in place for Planning and Development – a page or a small area of the website.

By collaborating on this, we can use the power of the GDS brand to highlight ODP's work, and get genuinely useful expert content to guide the market and support council digital teams.

Thank you!

GDSlocal-info@dsit.gov.uk



Tell your story!

- We'd like to continue LPA showcase slots at future General Meetings
- If you'd like to take a 10-minute showcase slot, please get in touch with Tom
- Showcases are the same short story-telling moments we have at our in-person events, opportunities to hear from the range of LPAs in ODP and all the interesting work happening!
- Monday 1st June at 1pm, next ODP General Meeting

Thank you!

#all-lpa-general