The PropTech Innovation Fund

Digital Twin Hub - Gemini Call
September 2023
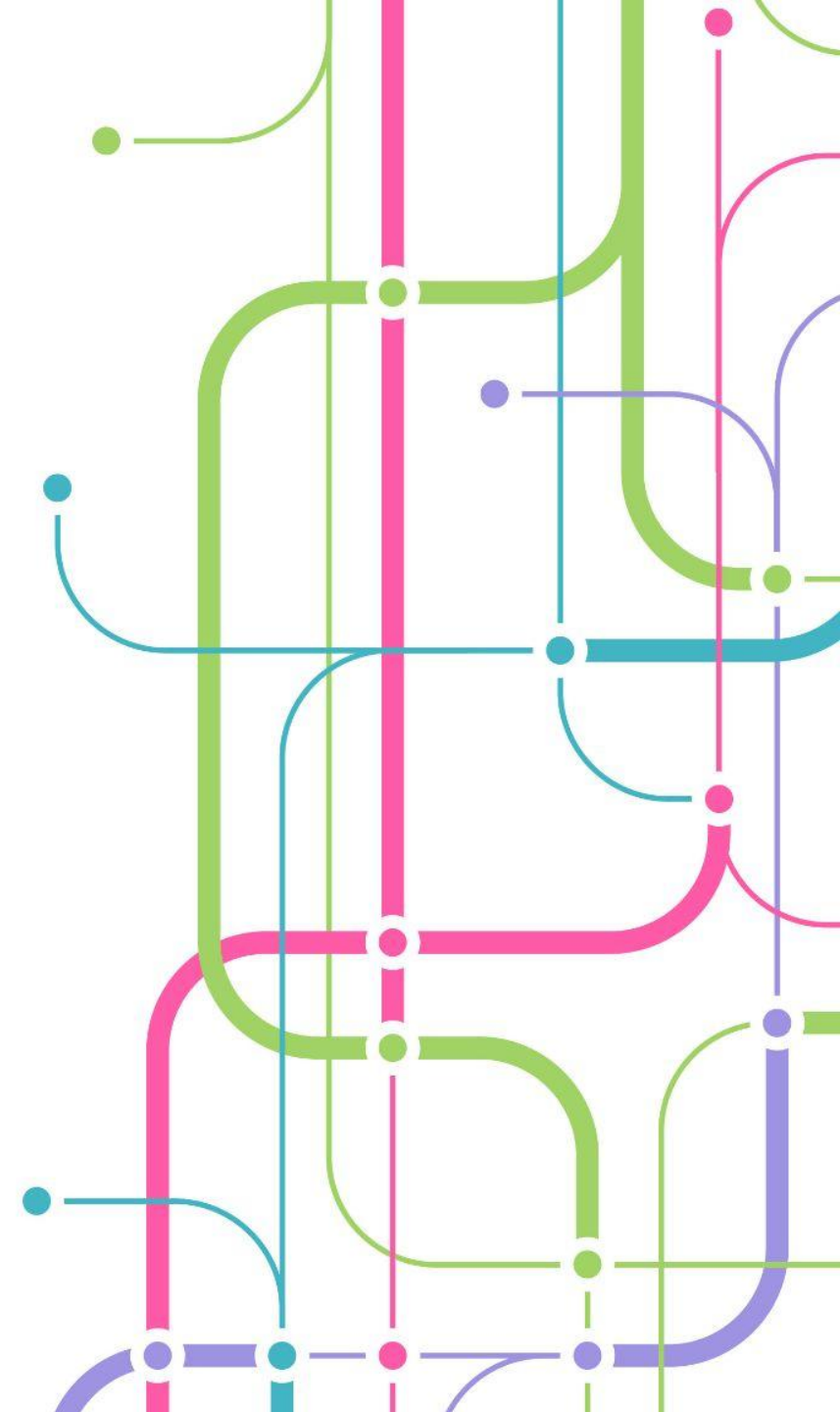
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Agenda

- Our problem statement

- The Digital Planning programme

- Our vision

- The PropTech Innovation Fund

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01

The problem

The current planning system is slow and inefficient due to its semi-analogue nature and a large number of paper based processes.

50%

Of planning applications are invalid on submission

Each invalid planning application causes on average:

34
days of delay
straining planning authority resources.

Outdated and often paper-based planning systems

mean time is spent on manual processing and valuable information is hard to access – both for government (to get a full and accurate picture of housing and planning needs) and for the private sector (to build innovative and productive services).

Around 85% of applications received by councils are for simple homeowner applications for things like extensions and changes of use.

Despite the simplicity of these projects, processing these applications and dealing with errors caused by the semi-analogue process takes up 50% of planning officer time. This takes capacity away from the development of higher priority larger (minor, major and strategic) schemes.

JOB SATISFACTION IS BEING AFFECTED

In 2008

70%
of planners worked in the public sector

By 2018, only

56%
of planners worked in the public sector

THE IMPACT ALSO EXTENDS TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Only 38%
of local authorities have adopted a Local Plan within the last five years.

Engagement with the development of Local Plans in the current system is not consistently measured, but the RTPI believe the figure can be less than 1% of the population of a district.

A Grosvenor report found only

7%
of citizens trust local planning authorities to make decisions in the best interest of the local community.

Disengaged communities can lack understanding of the positive outcomes developments can deliver.

Digital Planning Outcomes

Digitising the plan making process

Map-based local plans based on machine readable data and rules

Modern planning software

More efficient software for the planning system, underpinned by data not documents

Better access to planning data

Delivering the data infrastructure required for a data-driven system including data standards

Digital citizen engagement

Using PropTech to help enable everyone to easily engage with the planning system

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02

Digital Citizen Engagement

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The goal for digital citizen engagement:

Support the sector to adopt digital approaches to consultations that streamline the planning process and help enable faster housing and infrastructure development

- Accelerate local authority adoption of digital engagement tools and approaches to consultations

- Establish new best practice to inform policy development and overcome barriers to adoption

- Support the PropTech market to make solutions more sustainable, effective and accessible

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The PropTech Innovation Fund

Showing the art of the possible

Global Trends in Government Innovation 2023

OE.CD/TRENDS2023

APRIL 2023

OECD   OPSI   WORLD GOVERNMENT SUMMIT
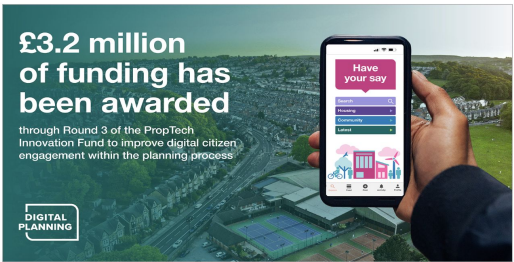
15 council led projects funded to scale digital solutions which aim to improve citizen engagement within the planning process

Digital Planning, 23 March 2023 - Digital Citizen Engagement, Digital Planning, PropTech

£3.2 million of funding has been awarded

through Round 3 of the PropTech Innovation Fund to improve digital citizen engagement within the planning process

DIGITAL PLANNING

Have your say

Proptech and planning: connecting to communities

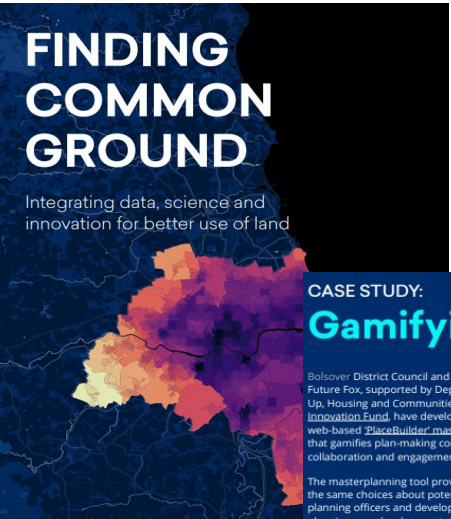Julia Cahill
24/03/2022 | Residential

After the Levelling Up white paper left the property industry feeling somewhat underwhelmed last month, there was a small but encouraging signal this week that government is serious about enabling residents to have a greater say in shaping and regenerating their communities.

The Planner
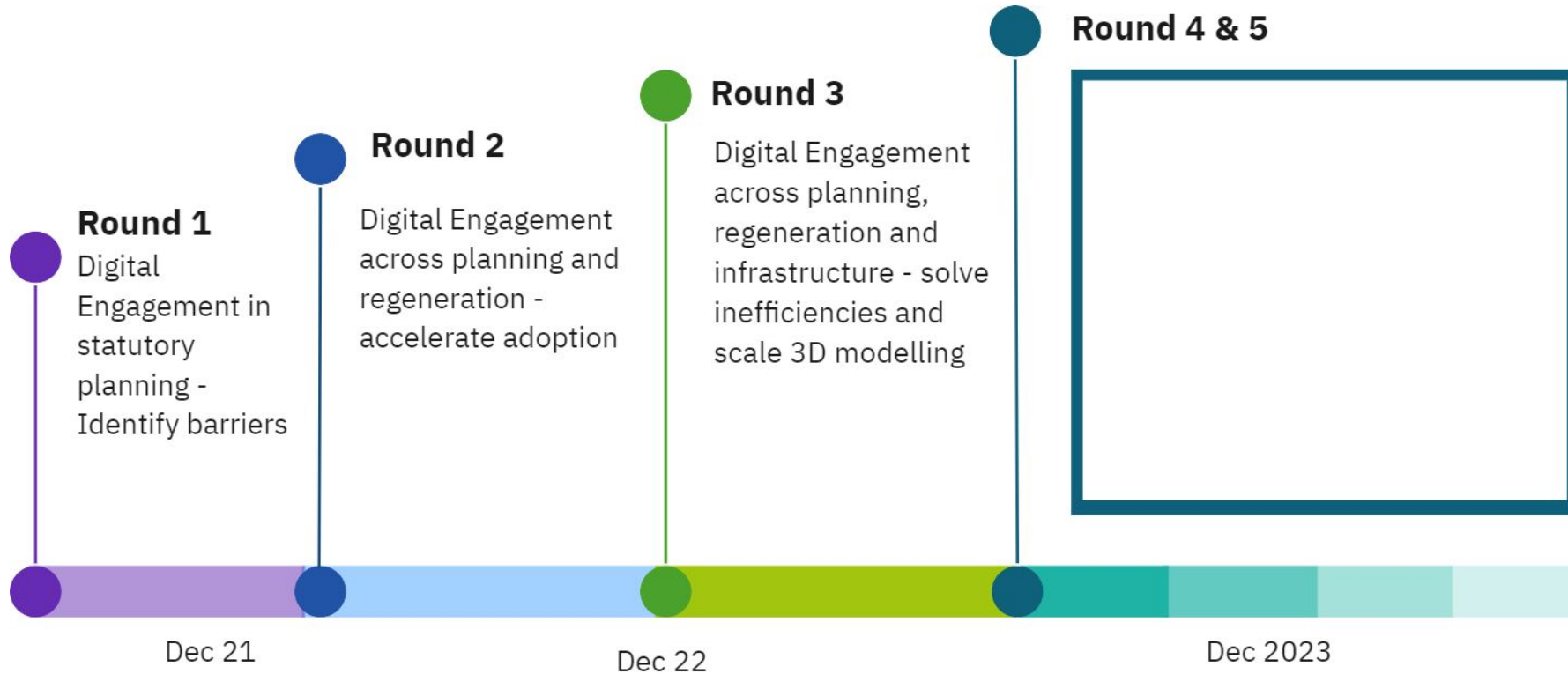https://www.theplanner.co.uk › 2023/02/22 › geospati... ⋮

Geospatial tech pilots address common planning challenges

22 Feb 2023 — **Esri** UK has announced the results of three pilot projects at Nottingham City Council, Dacorum Borough Council and South Ayrshire Council ...

FINDING COMMON GROUND

Integrating data, science and innovation for better use of land

CASE STUDY:
Gamifying local planning

Bolsover District Council and proptech firm The Future Fox, supported by Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities' (DLUHC) PropTech Innovation Fund, have developed an interactive, web-based 'PlaceBuilder' masterplanning tool that gamifies plan-making consultation to drive collaboration and engagement.

The masterplanning tool provides citizens with the same choices about potential land uses that planning officers and developers have when

The PlaceBuilder masterplanning tool was created for use as part of the Council's trial of a mobile first, young person oriented consultation on the Shirebrook Growth Plan, alongside the Council's traditional consultation methods. The exercise aimed to encouraging engagement particularly from young people who are most affected by future growth plans but in the authority's experience, are the least likely to turn up to traditional in-person events or respond to consultations.

Where to from here?
Levering the evolution of the fund:

Round 4 & 5

Round 3

Digital Engagement across planning, regeneration and infrastructure - solve inefficiencies and scale 3D modelling

Round 2

Digital Engagement across planning and regeneration - accelerate adoption

Round 1

Digital Engagement in statutory planning - Identify barriers

Dec 21

Dec 22

Dec 2023

The UK has never had a better opportunity to become the global home of proptech

Faisal Butt · Follow
Published in Pi Labs Insights ·

RESEARCH
22 ways the UK is creating a proptech powerhouse PlaceTech.

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Department for Science, Innovation & Technology

Geospatial Commission

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Showcasing best practice