

Doing Planning Differently

Lois Taylor, Service Owner Planning Software

Friday 13 June 2025



The vision

**“Make the planning system
in England fit for the 21st
Century”**

Digital planning – delivering government priorities



Plan-making

Full, universal coverage of local and strategic plans in this Parliament



Decision-making

Faster and better development management processes, with more certainty and lower costs



Data

Planning data that is easy to find, use and trust



Extract

585.

LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN
MEMORANDUM


From: DLAS
Ref: Legal/P2-303
Telephone inquiries to D. Davies

To: DPT-Planning Records
Your Ref:
Date: 12th February 1987

Article 4 Directions
32 - 66 (Even numbers only) South Hill Park NHS
and 72 - 90 (Even numbers only) South Hill Park NHS

Please see final attached copy of Article 4 directions which
has been approved by the Secretary of State subject to
the modifications shown in the attached manuscript.

L. Cowen
DLAS



“With Extract, we’re harnessing the power of AI to help planning officers cut red tape, speed up decisions, and unlock the new homes for hard-working people as part of our Plan for Change.”

“It’s a bold step forward in our mission to build 1.5 million more homes and deliver a planning system that’s fit for the 21st century.”

**Sir Keir Starmer
Prime Minister**

And how are we doing this? **Open Digital Planning**

A cross-public sector community of 150+ local planning authorities

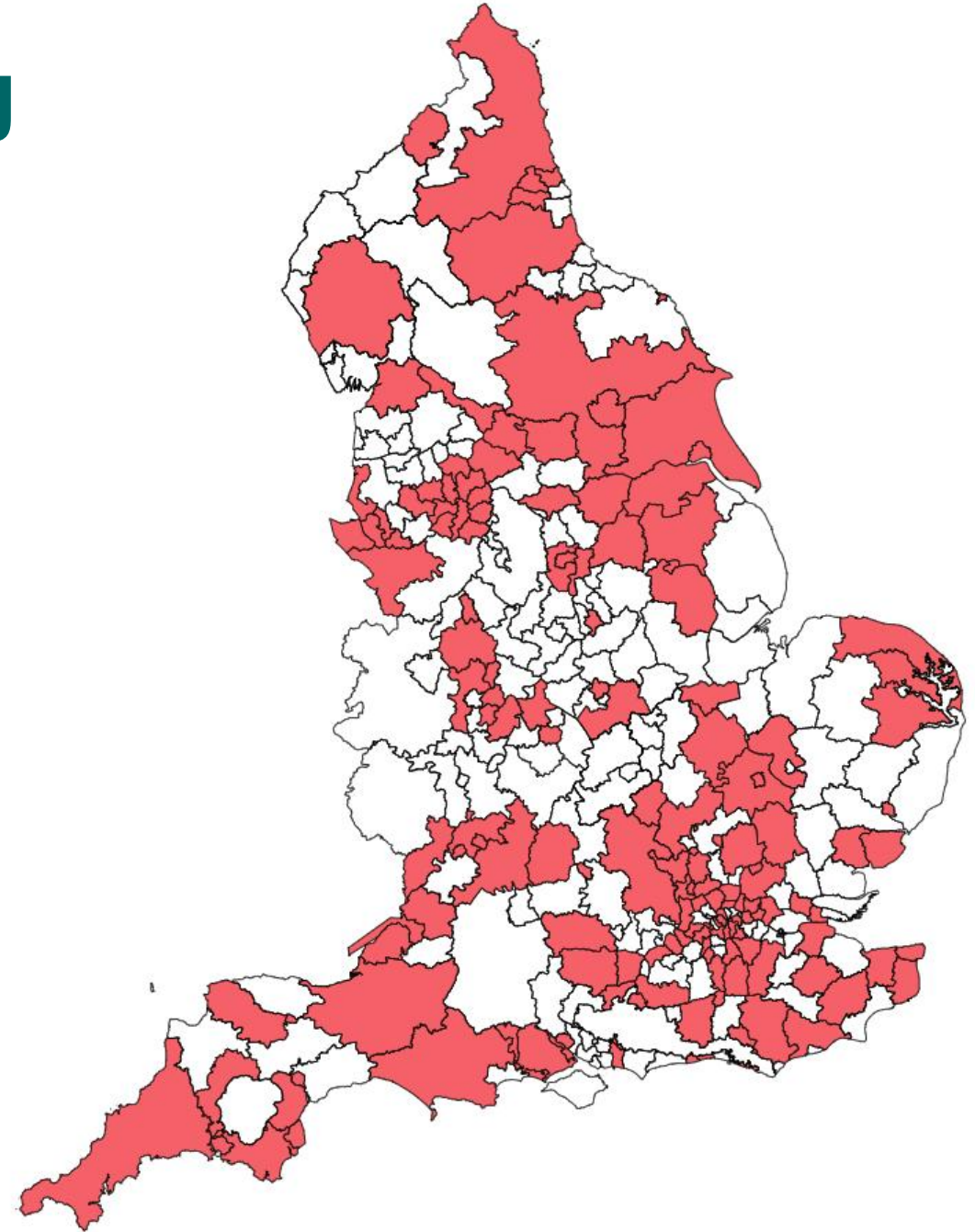



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

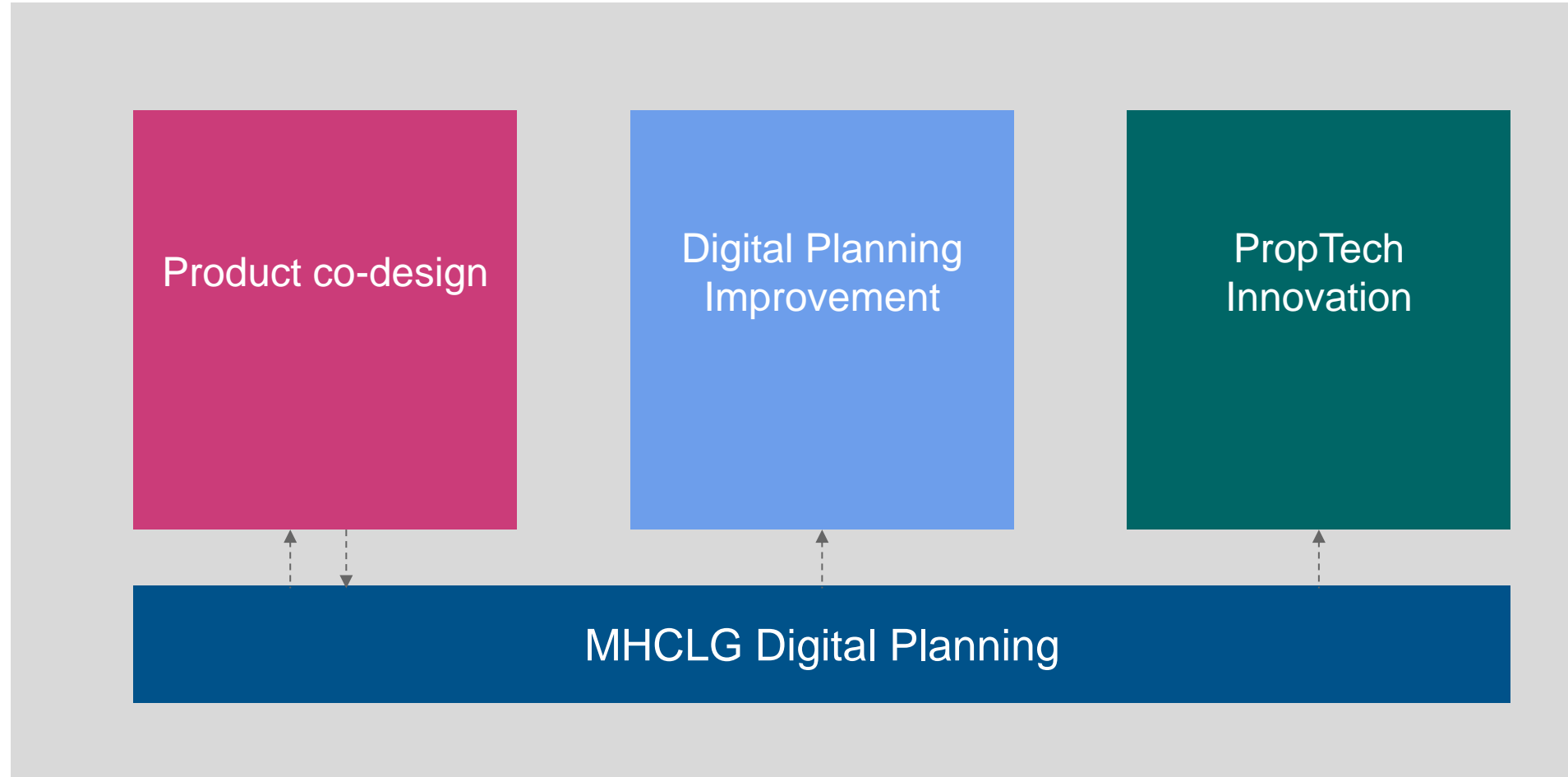
opendigitalplanning.org

Large scale partnership working

- Genuine large-scale partnership between central and local government
- Develop solutions that truly work on the ground
- Collaboration, co-design and a test-and-learn mindset essential for transformation
- Create vital connections between councils across England, fostering problem-solving and knowledge sharing



The Open Digital Planning community



We fund and support local planning authorities to co-design and launch alternative development management software



PlanX: Application submission and guidance services

BOPS: Back Office Planning System

Digital Site Notice / Digital Planning Register

Planning.data.gov.uk; National Planning Data platform



And the impact?

- **From confusion to clarity** – PlanX software cuts resident phone enquiries by 60% as users find info online
- **More data made available** – 64 councils have published accessible, reliable data in consistent formats on our Planning Data platform.
- **Increased community participation** – using a PropTech tool there has been a 10% jump in under-40s engaged in Cornwall's local plan, with their VR hot-air balloon ride!





The ODP 'secret sauce'

- Active community of local experts knowledge sharing and capability building
- All working in the open
- Use community platforms
- Community managers provide support
- Training and learning opportunities
- Online and in-person events – in October 125 people from 35 LPAs and public sector orgs gathered in Newcastle

Innovation starts now



LPAs are eligible for the **Digital Planning Improvement Fund (£50,000)** to prepare for improvements through digital capability building, planning data and software



Digital Planning Maturity Results and Action Plan

Planchester Council



Contents of this pack:

The following three tabs in this Excel document contain the results of your Digital Planning Maturity Assessment and guidance on how to create an action plan over the next 6-12 months.

Tab 1 - Results summary

Contains a radial diagram of your results, showing your average score for each category, compared against the average score of all LPAs that have completed the DPMA.

Tab 2 - Suggested actions

Based on your individual results, contains some suggested actions, expected outcomes and resources to support your LPA's improvement journey.

Tab 3 - Action plan

Turn insight into action. The template will help prioritise which areas to focus on and to agree on what activities you most need to carry out to create the desired change.

GOV.UK

Submit and update your planning data Find your organisation Guidance

Home > Organisations > City of London Corporation

City of London Corporation overview

4/9
datasets submitted

0
endpoint URLs with errors

1
dataset needs fixing

Datasets City of London Corporation must provide

[Brownfield land](#) Live

Endpoint URL submitted

Datasets organisations in Open Digital Planning programme must provide

City of London Corporation is a member of the Open Digital Planning programme.

[Article 4 direction](#) Live

Endpoint URL submitted

Start your digital improvement journey

I'm new to ODP. At first, I was excited — then I had a moment of “what have I done?” But I've since settled into the realisation that this is going to be something really valuable — not just for the council, but for me personally. The program brings together like-minded people who understand that things need to change, and this is a practical mechanism to help make that change happen.

I was new to applying for funding and, without any real expertise, I wasn't sure if I'd done enough. But the application process was surprisingly straightforward and easy to follow, which gave me the confidence to keep going—and ultimately to press submit.



Thank you

