ADLS and the Future of (Administrative) Data Access

Outline

- Motivation for ADLS
- ADLS – what it is and what it does
- The future of Data (access)

Administrative data - information collected primarily for administrative/ functional purposes
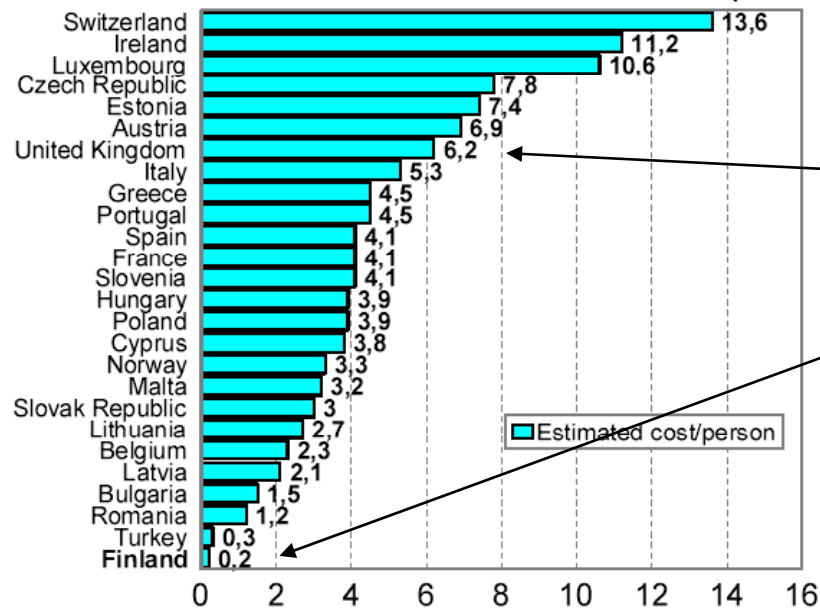

Source: Huntingdonshire District Council

Statistics Finland

Estimated costs/person of the censuses in 2000 (in euro)

Estimated costs of the Censuses in 2000 (in euro)

Country	Cost
Switzerland	13,6
Ireland	11,2
Luxembourg	10,6
Czech Republic	7,8
Estonia	7,4
Austria	6,9
United Kingdom	6,2
Italy	5,3
Greece	4,5
Portugal	4,5
Spain	4,1
France	4,1
Slovenia	4,1
Hungary	3,9
Poland	3,9
Cyprus	3,8
Norway	3,3
Malta	3,2
Slovak Republic	3
Lithuania	2,7
Belgium	2,3
Latvia	2,1
Bulgaria	1,5
Romania	1,2
Turkey	0,3
Finland	0,2

Estimated cost/person
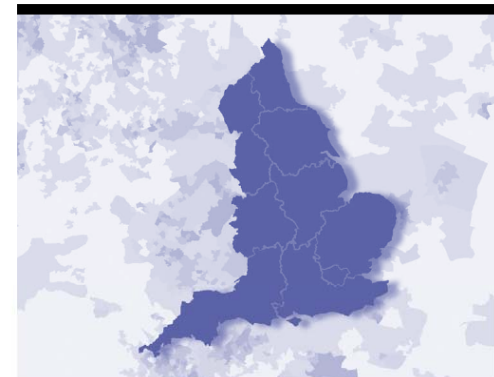
31 times cheaper

ADLS
ADMINISTRATIVE
DATA LIAISON
SERVICE

Research resulting in tools useful for directing government funding.

- **The problem**: historically the 10 year census had been the only tool available to government trying the make year by year decisions on where to direct funding to geographically small areas.

- **Example**: UK's Indexes of Deprivation - developed and produced by the Social Disadvantage Research Centre (SDRC) of the University of Oxford using a wide variety of administrative datasets.

The English Indices of Deprivation 2007
Summary

www.communities.gov.uk
community, opportunity, prosperity

Research allowing the evaluation of specific targeted government policies such as Area Based Initiatives (ABI)

- **The problem**: National surveys have typically too few sampling points within ABI areas to be able to measure any programme impact.
- **Example**: the National Evaluation of New Deal for Communities Area Based Initiative – a consortium led by the University of Sheffield Hallam, with work carried out by the University of Oxford, used a variety of longitudinally linked administrative datasets.

Research examining the 'rolling out' of national policy through pilots – exploiting 'natural experiments'.

- **Problem**: Dedicated longitudinal survey would be extremely expensive.

- **Example**: The Institute of Fiscal Studies and the Policy Studies Institute examined the impact of a group of five policies aimed at helping lone parents into work collectively know as 'the lone parent pilots' using the Work and Pension Longitudinal Study (WPLS).

Research allowing an understanding of the changing position of relatively small groups within the UK population

- **The problem**: National survey's sampling designs often do not allow accurate measurement of social and economic conditions for small population groups such as minority ethnic groups.

- **Example**: University of Bristol's Centre for Market and Public Organisation has used educational administrative datasets to explore the differing context of children's educational attainment in England.

Barriers to Admin data use in the UK

- Uncertainty about the legality of sharing data
- Data losses
- Concern amongst the UK population - a '**surveillance society**'.
- No incentive for 'data stewards' to expose themselves to risk
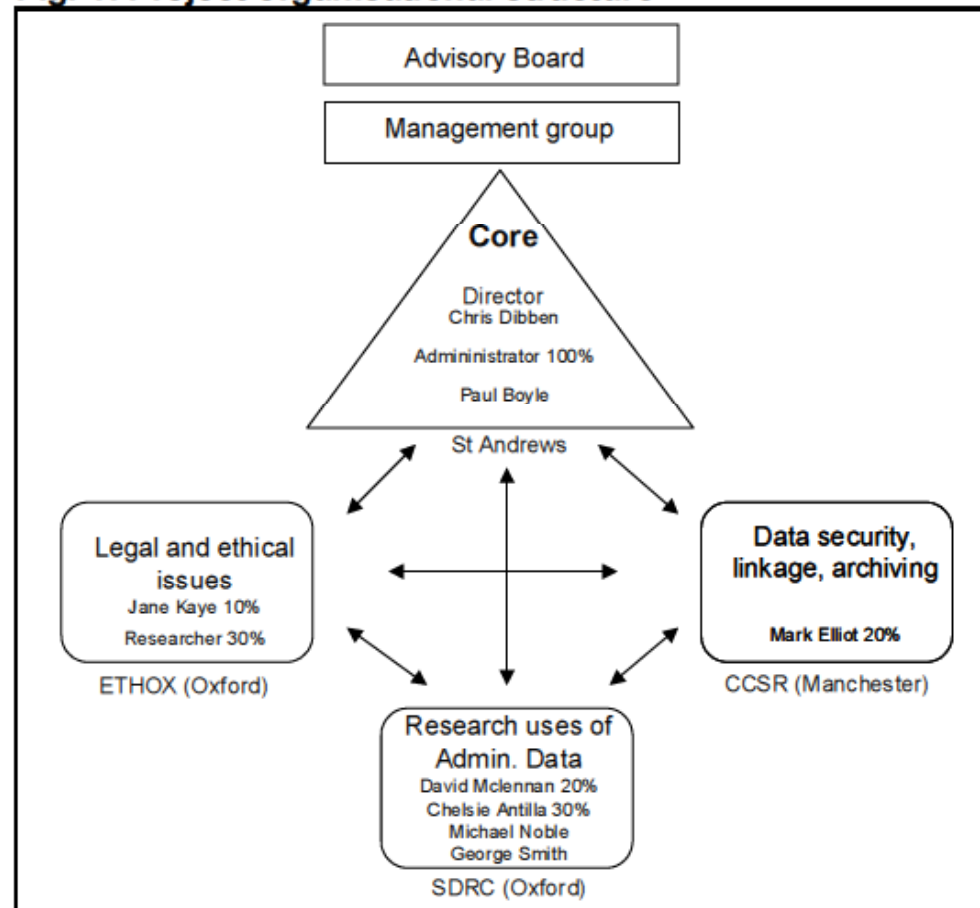- The politics of data

ADLS KEY OBJECTIVES

- Raise awareness of administrative data in the UK as a resource potential for research.

- Work with data holding organisations to improve access to their administrative data.

- collect, develop and disseminate information about the variety of administrative data and how to access them.

- Provide researchers with the knowledge and guidance to apply for and use administrative data responsibly.

How is the ADLS doing this

The ADLS is not a holding house for administrative data

- A core service – advice and communication, through a 'service manager' and website.

- A service development function – broader, developmental, navigational.

- An active dissemination and engagement strategy – to encourage greater use of these new forms of data

Fig. 1: Project organisational structure

SERVICES FOR RESEARCHERS

1. A dedicated website

❑ Comprehensive information on UK admin data resources (including access procedures).

  ■ Search facilities to find administrative data publications and publicly available admin data.

  ■ Information packs for admin data applications.

❑ Important legal and security guidance to use administrative data responsibly.

❑ Register to receive important ADLS updates.

SERVICES FOR RESEARCHERS

2. The Safe Researcher training programme

A one day course to provide the skills and knowledge to apply for and
use administrative data responsibly. Modules taught cover:

- **An overview of administrative data in the UK**
- **Legal responsibilities of a researcher**
- **Safe settings and data security**
- **Good practice in the analysis of administrative data**
- **Understanding statistical disclosure and disclosure risk**

SERVICES FOR RESEARCHERS

2. The Safe Researcher training programme

Next round of courses just announced:

- 25th May - University of Edinburgh
- 14th June - Medical Research Council, London
- 14th July - University of Manchester

Book now. Courses get booked up quickly!

3. P-ADLS

- An online archive of methods and codes developed by researchers to construct indicators and measures using administrative data.

- These may be of interest and use to other researchers.

4. An Advisory Service

The ADLS has a dedicated helpdesk to assist with
administrative data enquiries and provides support and

guidance with administrative data applications.

Contact details:

Phone: 01334 46 3901

Email: adls@st-andrews.ac.uk

SERVICES FOR Data Holders

1. Disclosure Risk Auditing
2. TTP
3. Access to ADLS community

So

- ◻ Administrative Data has a key role to play in the UKs national data strategy.
- ◻ ADLS is a key player in enabling access.

BUT….

BUT….

BUT....

Everything is about to change…

Future Internet

- Cloud Computing
- The Internet of things
- Smart Everything, particularly cities
  - Smart cities
  - Smart transport
  - Smart energy
  - Smart health
  - Etc etc...

Future Internet

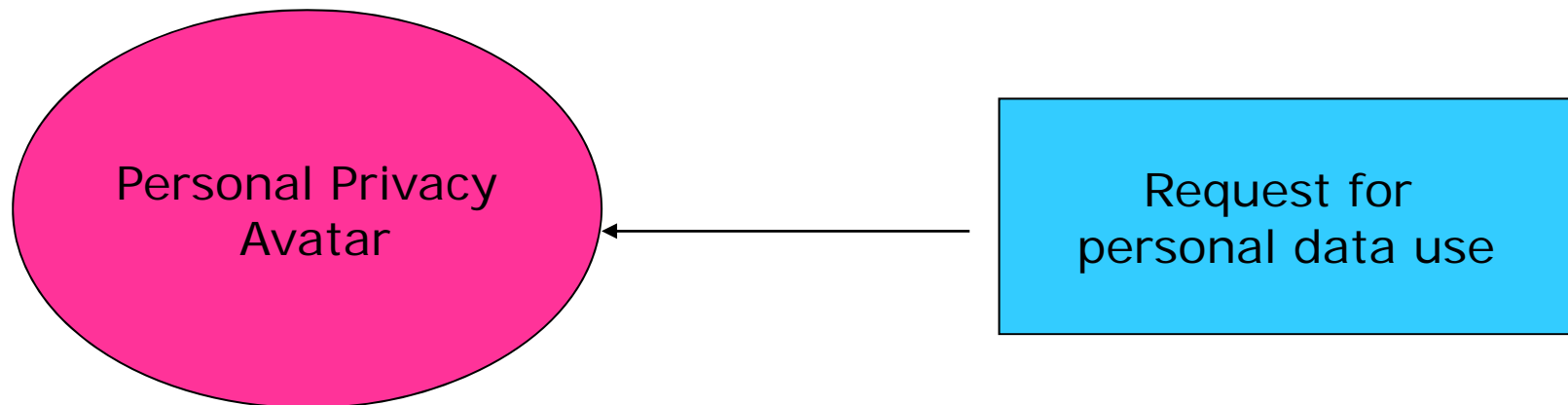- Interconnectivity
- Intelligence
- Interactivity
- Instrumentation

Future Internet

- The implications for
  - How we collect social data
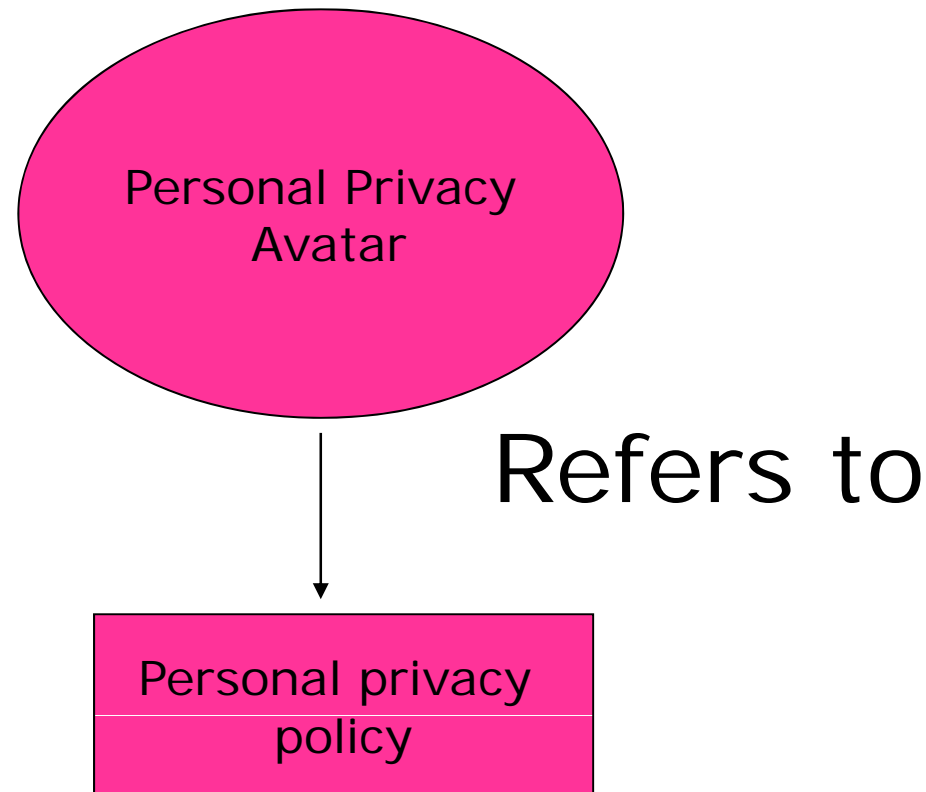 - Do social research
- Are huge

Privacy and the Future Internet

- The threat of to privacy of the future Internet is self evident
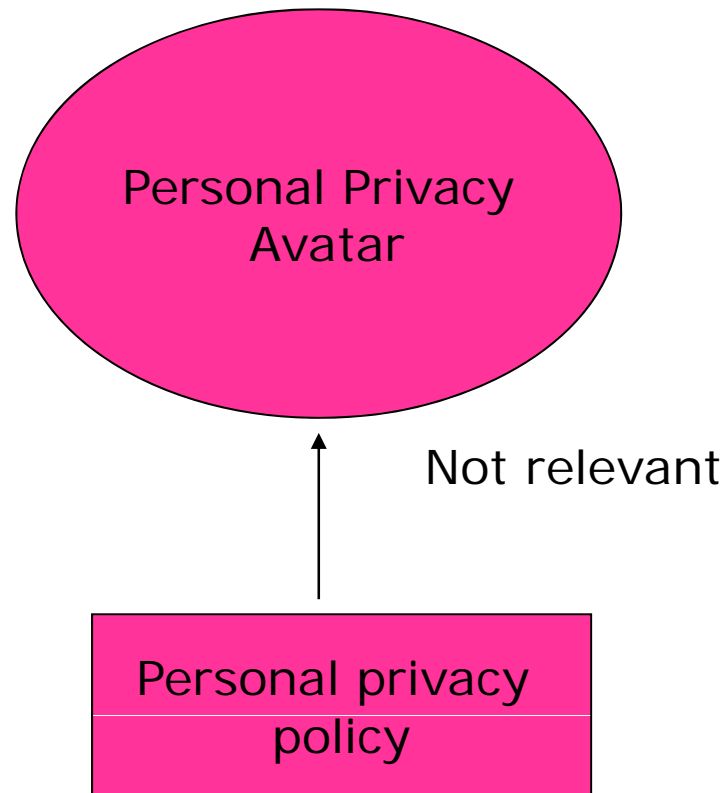 - More information
  - More surveillance
  - Etc. etc.

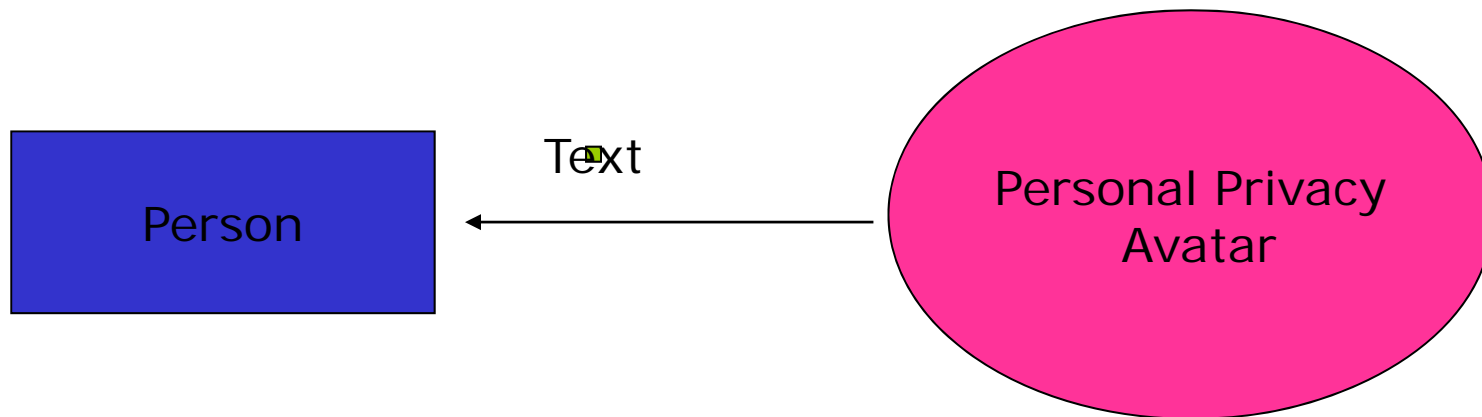# Privacy and the Future Internet: Just in time consent

Privacy and the Future Internet:
Just in time consent

Personal Privacy Avatar

Refers to

Personal privacy policy

Privacy and the Future Internet:
Just in time consent

Personal Privacy
Avatar

Not relevant

Personal privacy
policy

Privacy and the Future Internet: Just in time consent

Person

Text

Personal Privacy Avatar

So Data Access will change

- ❑ More Interactive
- ❑ More Participative
- ❑ Better data
  - More timely
  - More Accurate

Data itself will change

- The distinction between
  - Administrative and Statistical
  - Quantitative and Qualitative
- Will be come less clear cut

New issues

- ❑ Who gives consent to access?
- ❑ New Educational requirements
  - ■ Informational Citizenship
  - ■ Data responsibilities

Researchers who

- ❑ Have developed flexible skills for dealing with wide range data types and data issues will thrive.

Thank you