8 November 2017, 9am to 5pm. Cowes Yacht Haven, Cowes, Isle of Wight

Digital conference challenges

How might the Island turn 'dislocation' into an advantage?

This would be intended to speak to the Island's quality of life, and the idea of 'getting away from things' whilst still being connected to the world at very high speed. Is there a trend amongst millennials for a quieter, less connected environment to live in? How can the Island explore and capitalise on this trend?

What could happen if the whole island was connected with gigabit broadband?

What kinds of opportunity would this create on the Island?

What opportunities are there at the intersection of IoT, home automation and social care, health and well-being?

There seems to be a natural confluence of capabilities on the Island related to challenge of social care, the distances involved in travelling across the island, home automation and connectivity (is there scope for any form of Island-wide IoT connectivity, for instance using Sigfox, LoRaWAN or similar low energy, low bandwidth, long range technologies?). Or perhaps put another way, can emerging standards and off-the-shelf products in the home automation and IoT space by used to address social care, wellbeing and inclusion challenges?

What innovations and practices from the islands technology sector can be translated into other parts of the economy, and how?

The Island has some emerging specialisms, for instance in marine and aerospace tech. Can this world-class expertise be translated into other parts of the local economy, and help in its transformation? In other words, if one part of the economy is developing advanced skills in particular technologies and techniques, can this knowledge and capability be applied elsewhere?

How might new digital trends in education be leveraged to educate people to graduate and post-graduate levels, and retain them?

There is a stated challenge in the corporate plan around education at NVQ level 4 and above, and there is no university on the island. However, there are trends in higher education that seek to reduce issues of geographic distance, for instance in digitally assisted remote learning (eg, MOOCs), and in satellite university campuses. Are there therefore opportunities for these technologies and practices to be applied to allow students to reach higher level qualifications without leaving the Island?

How can the Island save £24m over the next four years?

This is a stated challenge in the Island's corporate plan, and relates to overcoming the 'island premium'. Could some of this saving come from joining up data, systems, and services; from automation and algorithmicallyassisted decision making; from alternative delivery and business models? What might this look like in practice?

What technologies and trends are of particular importance to the Island?

What should the island be paying particular attention to, learn more about, do something with? And why? For instance, should it be paying close attention to virtual presence technology to overcome dislocation? Should it be looking at remote working and remote learning trends for similar reasons? Autonomous vehicles to get around the Island? Alternative means of crossing the Solent?

What might be done to upskill the Island's workforce?

In addition to a lack of people with higher level qualifications, there is also a stated challenge around cross-training and upskilling the existing working (and non-working) population. What could be done about this, and does technology have a role to play?

How can digital improve the Island's visitor offer?

The challenge could be formulated as a creative exercise to imagine how certain technologies, eg, VR/AR, long range IoT, the Physical Web, Google's Nearby API, etc. could be used to enhance or transform tourist and cultural heritage experiences.

How could the Island's transport be different in ten years' time?

Transport is clearly an ongoing issue and source of debate on the Island, this challenge is an opportunity to engage delegates in imagining what a transport system of the 'surprisingly near' future might look and feel like? Ten years is a relatively short time frame, but is likely to see very significant transformation of mobility via renewableenergy powered, autonomous vehicles of a range of different types, coupled with 'mobility-as-a-service' business models. How might this 'mega-trend' find expression on the Island?

