BIG DATA, SMART CITIES AND THE INTERNET OF THINGS: THE PRIVACY QUESTION

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OUR DIGITAL FUTURES:
TECHNOLOGY WITHOUT BOUNDARIES

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Once regarded as the preserve of fantasy or science fiction books, the Internet of Things is increasingly viewed as the future of life in an ambient intelligent environment. We are poised at the cusp of complexity and uncertainty against a background of economic austerity, and pressing concerns relating to energy, the environment, food and transportation. The future "Smart City" must respond to these challenges. A viable Smart City must be both secure and sustainable while controlling the potential negative consequences involved in living in such an environment. Finding a commencing point from which a meaningful debate on the complex issues can be initiated, appears to be elusive and far from being straightforward. That said, the volume of information now being collected, curated, shared and analysed is posing industry and policymakers with questions relating to monetisation of personal data, commercialisation of data, data manipulation and privacy. Although the UK Government's "midata project" and "Open Data Initiative" provides us with some insights, there is very little clarity regarding the strategies that respond to the emerging privacy challenges. This is the challenge undertaken by Panellists at the Special Symposium Event at BILETA 2013. It aims to chart a possible way forward on how best innovation, commercialisation and development can be facilitated while

ensuring that privacy and security concerns are addressed. The questions examined include:

Can we re-think the design of urban and cultural spaces that is ecologically and economically sustainable?

How viable are current policy and regulatory initiatives in facilitating innovation, commercialisation and development?

What is or should be the role of Government and who pays for the privilege of living in a Smart City?

Is it possible to define principles relating to the boundaries between proprietary and non-proprietary ownership of data?

How will privacy and security risks be addressed?

The Panel will draw on their experiences and reflect on the following question:
How should cities such as Liverpool manage the challenges and opportunities provided by Big Data when addressing issues of concern to individuals, communities, organizations and industry? Can we learn lessons from other projects undertaken in London and major metropolitan cities?

Confirmed Panel Members
Laurence Alison (Liverpool)

Michael Beer (Liverpool)
Caspar Bowden (UK)

Ian Donald (Liverpool) (not confirmed)

Werner Hofer (Liverpool)

Jim Killock (Open Rights Organization, UK)

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One outcome of the Symposium and the Panels on Internet Cultures & Governance and Technologies, Innovation & Justice will be the production of a White Paper on how best Big Data-Open Data Innovation Models can embed values such as privacy, trust, proprietary and non-proprietary ownership of data.