Putting the puzzle together

a picture of social science data centres in the UK

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Better **Knowledge**   Better **Society**

UK PM Theresa May calls early election for June 8

This presentation

▶ looking at picture in UK

▶ focusing on main strands which focus on administrative and big data

▶ including some other connections

About the UK

▶ 3 strand programme

▶ 1. ADRN

▶ 2. Big Data Network

▶ 3. Civil society and new and emerging forms of data

About the ADRN

▶ Administrative Data Service - University of Essex

▶ secure research access to linked de-identified administrative data

▶ 4 Administrative Data Research Centres

▶ England – University of Southampton

▶ Northern Ireland – Queens University Belfast

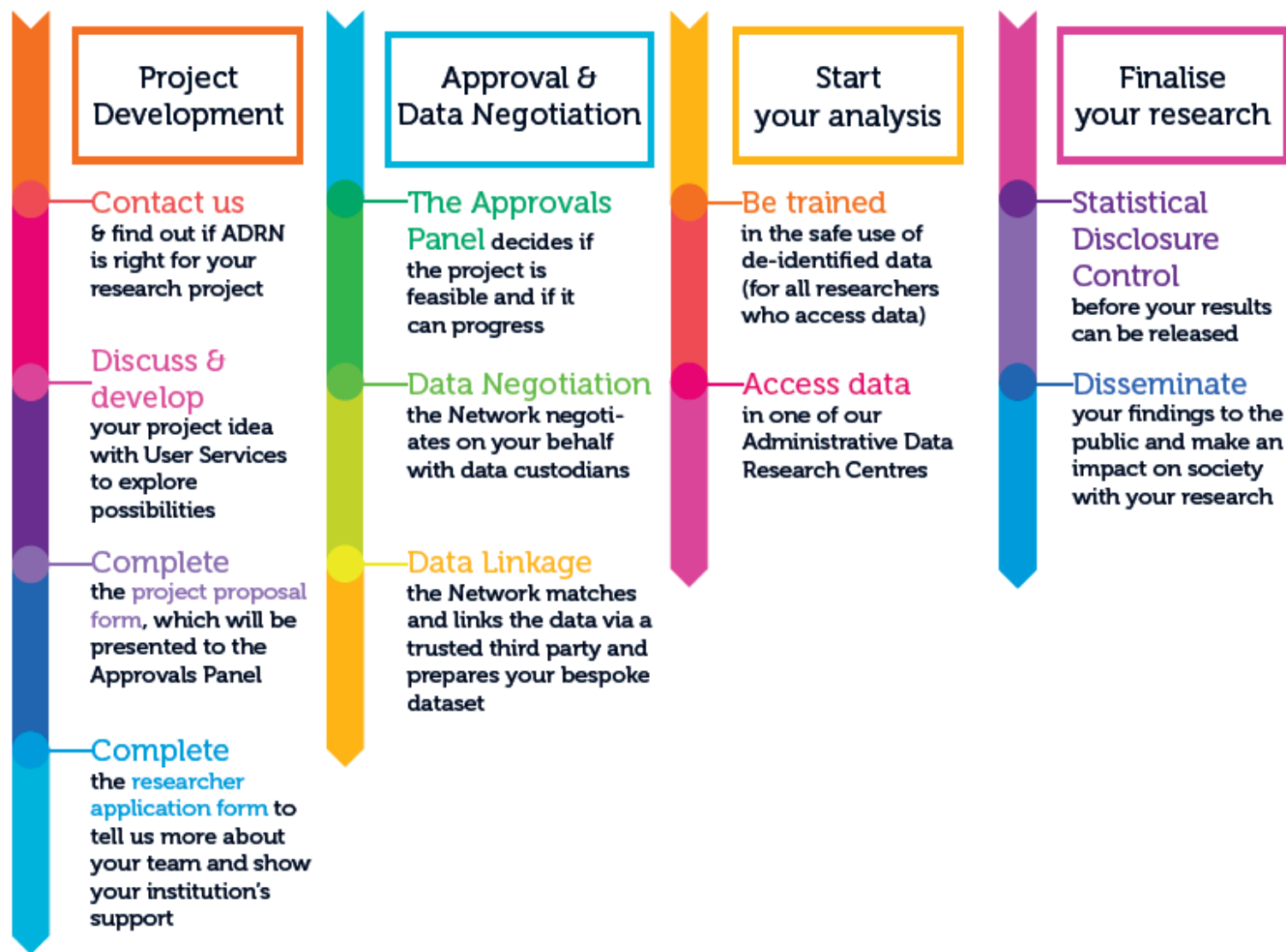▶ Scotland – University of Edinburgh

▶ Wales – Swansea University

ADRN Progress to date

▶ over 174 project proposals

▶ 25 researchers conducting analysis

▶ 2 projects finished analysis:

  ▶ ADRC-W: Welsh Government Supporting People Programme

  ▶ ADRC-NI: An exploratory analysis of factors associated with decreased representation in Higher Education

How It Works

Project Development

Contact us & find out if ADRN is right for your research project

Discuss & develop your project idea with User Services to explore possibilities

Complete the project proposal form, which will be presented to the Approvals Panel

Complete the researcher application form to tell us more about your team and show your institution's support

Approval & Data Negotiation

The Approvals Panel decides if the project is feasible and if it can progress

Data Negotiation the Network negotiates on your behalf with data custodians

Data Linkage the Network matches and links the data via a trusted third party and prepares your bespoke dataset

Start your analysis

Be trained in the safe use of de-identified data (for all researchers who access data)

Access data in one of our Administrative Data Research Centres

Finalise your research

Statistical Disclosure Control before your results can be released

Disseminate your findings to the public and make an impact on society with your research

Phase 2: Big Data Centres

▶ BLG

▶ UBDC

▶ CDRC

Phase 2: Big Data Centres

▶ BLG

Business and Local Government
Data Research Centre

▶ support business, local government and academics to harness the potential of complex big data where traditional analysis techniques may not apply

Phase 2: Big Data Centres

▶ UBDC

▶ Big data to address a range of urban challenges

Phase 2: Big Data Centres

▶CDRC

▶The CDRC is working with consumer-related organisations to open up their data resources; to their trusted researchers.

Big Data Network Support

▶Big data resources

▶training for researchers.

▶support and coordinate Phase 2

▶based at UK Data Service

Phase 3:
Citizen and Voluntary sector strands

▶ Utilising Big Data in the Practice of Torture Survivors' Rehabilitation

▶ A Profiler for Crime, Criminal Justice and Social Harm

▶ Data Resource Construction: Open Data, Grantmaking Data, and the Organisational and Financial Base of the Third Sector

▶ Developing the Use of Administrative Data on Scotland's Civil Society

Phase 3
New and Emerging Forms of Data

▶8 policy demonstrator projects

▶Showcase potential of new forms of data to policymakers

▶Running from February 2017 for a year

Common challenges

1. Uncertainty about public perception

▶ Dialogues on Data (2014) – ADRN

▶ Public dialogues on the (re)use of private sector data for social research (2015) – Phase 2

Dialogue on Data: on ADRN

▶ why necessary to establish ADRN?
  ▷ People thought data sharing and linkage already happened widely within gov't

▶ the legacy of previous data projects

▶ concerns about de-identification and the possibility of re-identification

▶ concerns about security and who can access linked datasets, commercial usage

▶ concerns about cost

Dialogue on Data: Phase 2

▶ wide public support for the use and re-use of private sector data for social research.

▶ access to information about the Data Centre processes alleviated initial security and privacy concerns.

▶ trade-off between concerns and perceived risks of the use of private sector data in favour of research that leads to improvements in policy and services.

Common challenges

▶data acquisition

Common challenges

▶boundaries between specialist areas

▶maintaining unique selling points

▶coordination- Big Data Network Support

Big Data at Essex

▶Administrative Data Service of ADRN

▶Business and Local Government Data Research Centre

▶Human Rights, Big Data and Technology Project

▶Big Data Network Support

Find out more:

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