"Can Data Enablers Unlock the Guarded Vaults?"?

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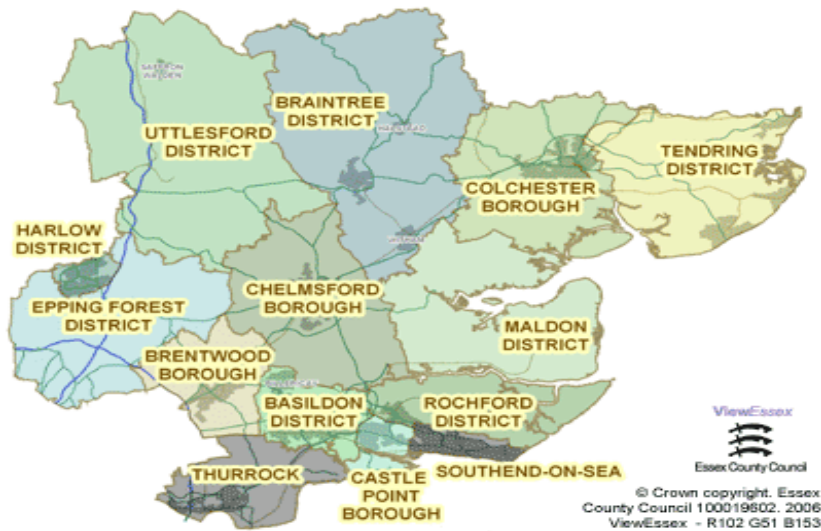UK Data Service

UK·DATA ARCHIVE

University of Essex

Obtaining and Using Administrative Data
Helping local government improve community services

- Challenge Lab- A partnership between the University of Essex and the local authority

Essex County (pop ≈1.5 million people)
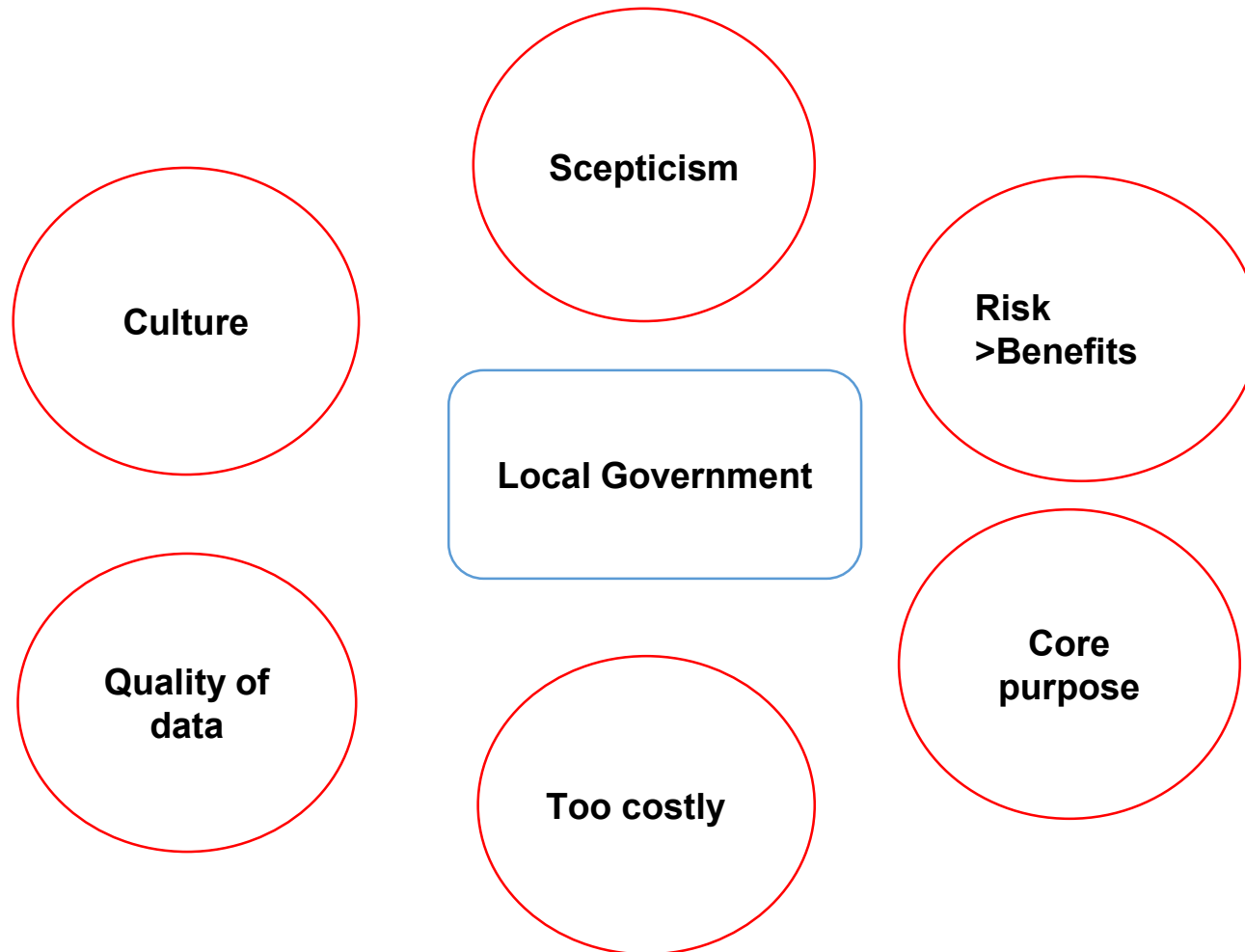
University of Essex

Challenge Lab

- <u>Helping people with disabilities into employment</u>
- ➢ Look at disabled employment around the region and examining what barriers exist to employment.

- <u>Doing more with less –self-serve-</u>
- ➢ Prepare corporate service for future automation – improve self-service and efficiency. How best to maximise/optimise user interface(s) especially around culture change for (self-) service delivery.

- <u>Better interface/systems for social workers-</u> how to improve creation of reports.

- <u>Enablers (**our project**)-</u>
- ➢ Data sharing aimed to use the other approved projects from the Challenge Lab to inform a new way of sharing local administrative data with the university, help projects by analysing challenges and try to provide a solution. Historically sharing of data between the two organisations has been difficult.

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What challenges are we trying to overcome?

Scepticism

Culture

Risk >Benefits

Local Government

Quality of data

Too costly

Core purpose

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How can we overcome it ?

- Provide data owners with all necessary safety assurances around data sharing and engage them in the process

- Support data owners with expertise and resources necessary for making their admin data **research ready**

What is proposed ?

➢ Creating Partnerships

1) Trusted broker- Stronger partnership among local government, academic institution and a Trusted Data Repository. (Tailored datasets)

2) Creation of Themed Databases- Partnership between policy departments and researchers in academia and a Trusted Data Repository

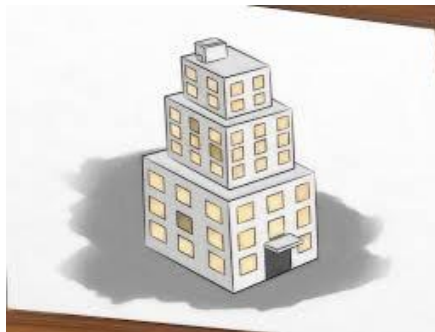UK Data Service

Research and statistical expertise

Administrative Data

Local Government

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Trusted Broker/ repository

Data Appraisal

Secure access -5 Safes

Licensing and Governance

Replicate Administrative Data Research Network (ADRN) new model at a local level

ADRN is a UK consortium of universities and the Office for National Statistics, funded by Economic and Social Research Council to enable research use of administrative records to benefit both government and research objectives.
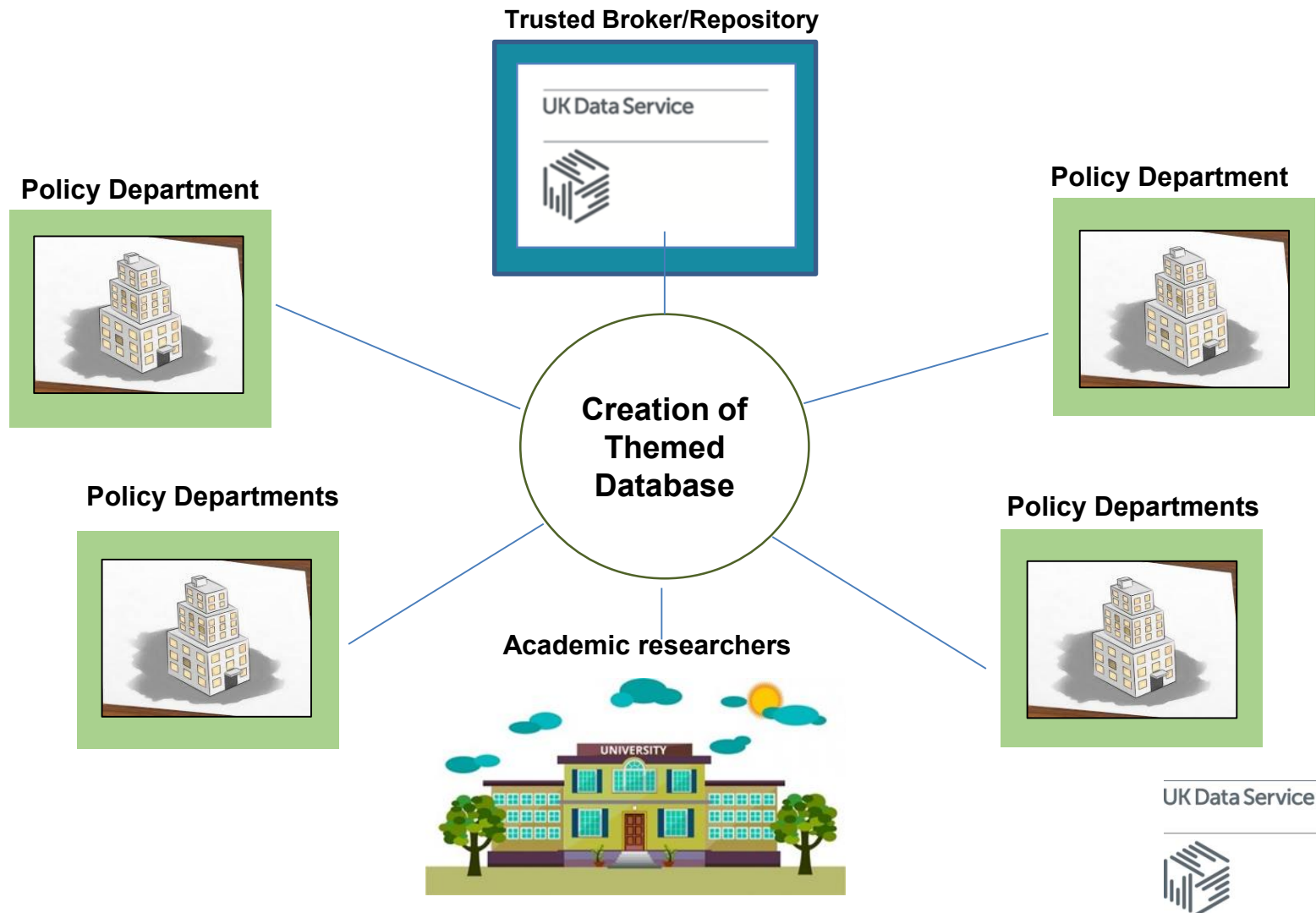
Themes

- <u>World of Work</u>
a. Aim to improve understanding of probability of returning to employment for those inactive through health/long-term unemployed, (data required- benefits, employment data, Census , employment history, occupation, socio-demographics , household factors etc)

- <u>Growing Old</u>
    a.   Behaviour decisions around financial savings
    b.   Understanding better transition into retirement
(data required - Pension, income , assets , housing data, etc)

Data owners to engage and contribute according to their needs and understand the benefits of using administrative data for research

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Themed Partnership

- Building Themed databases in partnership with data providers

Building the database

The Partnership find consensus on Research Objectives/ data required and available and agree Design

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Ethical consideration

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Data base build within a data repository Secure Environment Data linked and de-identified

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Data Repository/data broker create metadata and catalogue the Theme Datasets

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Joint data controllers stipulate user conditions Use of trusted broker/data depository for data dissemination and licence agreements

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The Usage Control

Researchers use catalogue to develop project proposal including data required

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Necessary approvals (Research ethic committee, Data Access Committee, Statistics Authority accreditation)

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Joint data controllers issue project specific user license to Data Repository/Trusted broker

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Research Access given at a secure environment

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Outputs checked prior to release from secure environment

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Research summary published

Think about political sensitivity

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Questions

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