



## **LOTI Data Master Class for Senior Leaders Proposal**

### **About LOTI**

LOTI is a fast-moving city innovation unit based at London Councils. We specialise in helping boroughs work together to bring the best of digital and data innovation to improve public services and outcomes for Londoners. We work in the open. Read all about our activities at: <https://loti.london>.

### **The challenge**

The ability to use and collaborate with data well, is now accepted as a vital competency for any council wishing to be truly effective and responsive to its residents' needs. Councils need to build the capability to use data through every part of the organisation. To achieve this, leaders must have a strong understanding of the value of data to their organisation, from knowing how to interpret and ask the right questions, to understanding how data can underpin the operational delivery of services. As busy leaders may not have had the opportunity to formally learn about the role of data in modern organisations and the possibilities offered by innovations in data science, there is a need to create an engaging space for learning that fits into their busy diaries.

### **Our proposal**

To bring together a cohort of leaders from London Boroughs, London Councils and the GLA to learn data principles collectively. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has produced [a programme of content](#) aimed at leaders in the public sector that is available for free. LOTI will convene a cohort and facilitate a combined learning experience that provides an interactive and supported learning environment built on top of the ONS course material.

Learning together makes the passive e-learning experience active. Leaders will be required to complete the course in a 3-6 week period and brought together to discuss the content and ask questions at the end of the programme. The course is a total of 7-9 hours in length made up of 15 minute modules accessible on any device. Throughout the learning period leaders can post questions in the learning environment which will be moderated by officers with data experience from LOTI and the GLA.

We will encourage leaders to apply the principles to the context that they work in and support in making the connections between principles and their application in practice.

## Objectives of the course

To enable leaders to:

- use data to improve the way they make decisions
- craft policy based on evidence
- communicate compelling narratives using data
- identify opportunities to apply cutting edge data science techniques

## Costs

The course is free. LOTI will provide the administration and facilitation of the course.

## Cohort

A cohort of up to 40 leaders from:

- LOTI Boroughs
- GLA
- London Councils

## Overview of the Data Masterclass content

The Masterclass centres around a series of 10 keynote talks delivered by world-leading experts including:

### **Dr Hannah Fry**

(BBC presenter and Associate Professor of Mathematics at University College London)

### **Sir David Spiegelhalter**

(Winton Professor of the Public Understanding of Risk at the University of Cambridge)

### **Sir Ian Diamond**

(National Statistician)

### **Azeem Azhar**

(Serial entrepreneur and founder of the Exponential View podcast)

These are supported by powerful case studies from government and the public sector, as well as supplementary materials to support learning and encourage cross-department discussion on these important topics.

### **Week 1**

Data-driven decision-making and policy-making

### **Week 2**

Communicating compelling narratives through data

### **Week 3**

Data science and new frontiers



Dr Hannah Fry



Azeem Azhar

**Key questions:**

- What would be the most effective way to recruit participants from each LOTI member organisation?
- What level of seniority can be recruited - some boroughs have suggested AD might be a more realistic level.
- What format should the reflection sessions provided around the course take?
- Can leaders commit to completing the course in 3 weeks (3 hours per week) as recommended by ONS? Or would a 6 week programme (1.5 hours per week) be more realistic?