



Innovation UK Local Government – Insights from Socitm Digital Trends"

UK Authority – Powering Digital



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SPEAKER PROFILE

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Structure of presentation

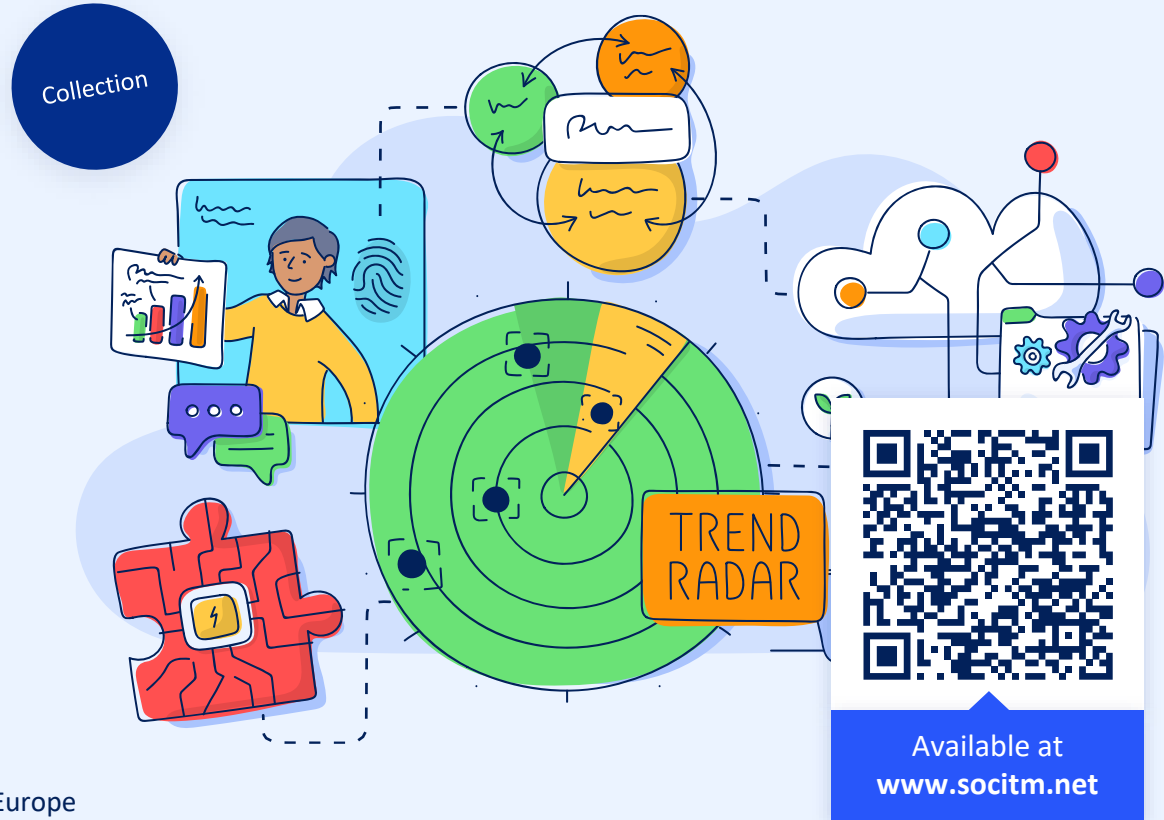
- Insights from Digital Trends 2025
- Local government reform/Devo

UPDATED FOR 2025

Public Sector Digital Trends: Beyond Borders

Discover the top digital and technology trends driving local public services change, innovation and reform in the face of a 'perfect storm' of environmental, economic and social pressures.

In partnership with: LOLA | Major Cities of Europe



Beyond borders

01

Overcoming
cultural,
administrative,
organisational and
structural borders

02

Utilising
technologies and
data effectively
across communities
and places

03

Promoting
standards and
integration across
networks, regions
and countries

Public Sector Digital Trends: Beyond Borders

Collection

Drawing on experiences from across the UK and our international partner countries, Socitm's Public Sector Digital Trends analysis is designed to help public sector leaders plan their digital journey, learning from others and applying insights to their own organisation and circumstances.

Our focus for 2025

- 1. Reimagining services:** Local governments must reimagine services, collaborate, innovate, and leverage AI to enhance efficiency, inclusivity and community outcomes responsibly.
- 2. Cyber security:** Organisations must bolster cyber defences against AI, IoT and cloud threats, enhancing resilience through collaboration and best practices.
- 3. Harnessing data:** Harnessing data improves public services. Effective data use across borders enhances delivery. AI's impact depends on data quality and governance.





LG Reform & Devolution : the emerging scenario - services reimagined around place-based outcomes



Whole system focus on achieving better social, economic and environmental outcomes across the place



Combined, strategic political oversight



Supporting political structures in transition or fully integrated



Strategic, public value mindset



Emphasis on relationship building and collaboration



Residents, communities, employees, volunteers, visitors, private, third and other public sector organisations engaged to co-create and co-deliver



LG Reform & Devolution: the emerging scenario - services reimagined around place-based outcomes



Corporate and service
functions reimagined and
transformed



Standards-based, integrated
technology and network
infrastructure



Ethically-driven use of AI



Data-driven policy and
resource allocation

DDaT challenges in Devolution & LG Reform



Digital, Data & Technology Gaps

IT is **not prioritised in governance reforms**, leading to **costly inefficiencies**.
Councils fail to **recognise early digital transformation opportunities**.

Financial Uncertainty & Vendor Complexity

Unclear funding routes – Will IT funding come from Devo or LGR budgets?
Existing IT contracts **are fragmented across merging councils**.

Cybersecurity IG & Data Risks

Siloed legacy systems create security vulnerabilities.
Mergers must include **data governance strategies from the outset**.

Do Nothing?

- **Budget waste** due to duplicated IT services.
- **Legal & compliance risks** from fragmented cybersecurity frameworks.
- **Citizen service disruptions** from disjointed IT systems.

Do It Right?

- **Cost savings of 15-30%** through IT rationalisation.
- **Faster, smarter decision-making** via AI-driven insights.
- **Councils retain long-term control over IT infrastructure and data**.

10 key questions for public sector leaders

Part of the Public Sector Digital Trends collection



Available at
www.socitm.net

Infographic



Public Sector Digital Trends 10 key questions for public sector leaders

As digital transformation continues to reshape our world, it is imperative for public sector leaders to remain proactive in their approach.

To navigate this evolving landscape effectively, leaders must be prepared to address a series of critical questions that not only encompass the technological readiness of their organisations, but also the broader implications for their people, communities and places they serve.

Leaders should use the following key questions as a guide to ensure that their digital plans and initiatives are impactful and create a vision that is both innovative and inclusive.

View the updated collection online at:
socitm.net/public-sector-digital-trends

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1. What are the **three digital initiatives** that are critical for your organisation to execute your strategy/ies?
2. What **partnerships** will benefit your residents, communities and place and how are you preparing for them?
3. How are you using technology and data to **reduce costs**?
4. Is your technology estate **ready to harness AI**, modern technology platforms, data, operating models, capabilities and talent?
5. Can you be more creative in **hiring and keeping staff** to address skills gaps and shortages?
6. How are you **harnessing place-based data insights** to reimagine services?
7. How are your digital and IT services, including business processes, procurement and support, **strengthening community and organisational resilience**?
8. Do you have a vision for what your **GenAI enabled, place-based organisation** looks like, and how you are preparing to harness it responsibly?
9. What steps are you taking to **protect your place, organisation and systems** from major external risks?
10. How are you planning to use new technologies and data to **create value and inclusion** for your community?