



Social Care Digital Innovation Accelerator Programme

The LGA, in collaboration with NHS Digital, is grant funding digital innovation in social care through the Social Care Digital Innovation Accelerator Programme, which aims to test a new approach to co-funding and collaboration within the sector.

In July 2019 the opportunity for five councils to co-fund and co-design one of three digital innovations, supported by [Co-fund and Collaborate to Innovate](#) (CC2i) and matched funding from LGA, was promoted widely by CC2i. These innovation projects were:

- A people and partnership centred digital approach to the new **Liberty Protection Safeguards** legislation; mapping the differences to the current Deprivation of Liberty process and then developing a digital solution that works for all partners. A description of this project can be [found from this link](#) as well as timescales, costs, and context.
- A digital approach to multi-agency **domiciliary care medicine management** to decrease the patient risks that currently exist within the system, as well as reduce wastage both in terms of carer time and medication. A description of this project can be [found from this link](#) as well as timescales, costs, and context.
- **Home assessments virtual reality app** enabling practitioners and people to better understand where there may be potential in their home to better meet their needs or manage risk by using aids, equipment or technology enabled care solutions. The use of augmented and virtual reality in adult social care, and the public sector more widely, is in the very early stages. But this technology is already proven in the private sector – think Ikea Place. With the widespread ownership of smartphones and tablets, there is the potential to develop accessible and time-savings way to use this technology.

These projects were identified as having real value to a wide range of councils and the potential for significant frontline savings. Participating councils were each asked to co-fund £10,000, which was 10% of a project, and to get involved to shape the solution around their specific needs.

Evaluating the programme

The LGA is keen that the programme is independently evaluated and has appointed the [Institute of Public Care](#) (IPC) at Oxford Brookes University to undertake an evaluation, including this survey. The evaluation will take place between September 2019 and January 2020. It is seeking to understand the potential for a co-funding approach to stimulate digital innovation in the sector. The findings from the evaluation will be used to inform future social care digital innovation grant funding strategy by NHS Digital.

If you have any questions about the evaluation, please contact Fiona Richardson, Assistant Director at the Institute of Public Care, on 01865 790312 or frichardson@brookes.ac.uk.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for contributing to this evaluation. The more people that complete the survey, the more relevant, accurate and extensive the results will be.