

NDS AI NETWORK ROUND TABLE

Minutes | 2pm Monday 22 September 2025

Attendees: Dan Woodcock (DW), Louise King (LK), Ben Alexander (BA), Peter Moles (PM), Regent Lee (RL), Stefano Malacrino (SM), Ashwini Kanakapura Sriranga (AKS), Gurdeep Mannu (GM), Begum Zeybek-Saglam (BZS), John Kellas (JK), Joe Cutteridge (JC), Anette Magnussen (AM), Sandy Figiel (SF)

Apologies: Peter Friend (PF), Maria Kaiser (MK), Monica Dolton (MD)

Location: NDS Seminar Room, Level 6, JR, and Teams

Agenda Item 1	Welcome
	RL welcomed the network as the chair for this meeting, and the group welcomed new members Ashwini Kanakapura Sriranga (Research Assistant) and Joe Cutteridge (Clinical Fellow in Vascular Surgery)
Agenda Item 2	Previous meeting minutes
	The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted and the action points were discussed. Data management and storage challenges: BSZ, DW, and RL discussed ongoing challenges with managing and storing AI-generated data, including the need for guidance on data management plans, funding applications, and centralised storage solutions, with input from Rowan Wilson (Head of Research Computing and Support Services, IT Services and Live Data Domain lead for Oxford) and plans to involve the Research Data Oxford team and Andy Blake (Strategic Data Platform Development Lead, Department of Oncology) in future meetings. ACTION: BZS to check back in with the Research Data Oxford team regarding updates on AI data management plan templates and guidance and copy LK in correspondence. ACTION: Invite Rowan Wilson (BZS) and Andy Blake (DW) to the next meeting to discuss AI data management and storage solutions. ACTION: Collect suggestions from network members on questions to ask Rowan Wilson and Andy Blake (All, LK). Environmental impact and digital transformation initiatives: RL provided an update on discussions with the Digital Transformation Team, Brian Marsden (Associate Head of Division for Digital and Information), and industry partners regarding the environmental impact of computing, green computation initiatives, and the potential for industry collaboration to support sustainable AI infrastructure.

	AI survey and network documentation: LK, BA, and MD have been working on compiling AI survey results and creating a comprehensive document detailing network members, research groups, and their involvement in AI, with plans to circulate this within the network and eventually the wider department. ACTION: Review and update the AI survey questions to include anticipated compute requirements (LK, MD)
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Agenda Item 3	
Network remit and structure	RL, DW, and LK reviewed the current structure and remit of the AI Network meetings and agreed to continue with monthly meetings. Then discussed the upcoming AI theme Surgical Grand Round on 21 November. A brainstorming discussion took place on the concept of an AI Centre of Excellence. ACTION: RL to seek advice from the NDS Management Executive Board about this. ACTION: Request ALL members of the AI Network to provide details of their anticipated GPU and computational requirements for the coming year, using H100 as a benchmark, for internal scoping and potential industry partnership discussions.

Agenda Item 4	
Common needs and problems	PM reported ongoing efforts to engage MSD IT services regarding storage solutions and plans to discuss a data audit with Jo Snoeck and report back to the network. ACTION: PM to follow up with MSD IT to request attendance at a future meeting to present their storage roadmap for Medical Sciences Division staff.

Agenda Item 5	
AOB	None

Agenda Item 6	Actions	Decision / Outcome
	1. BZS to check back in with Research Data Oxford team re AI data management guidance 2. Invite Rowan Wilson (BZS) and Andy Blake (DW) to the next meeting 3. Send questions to ask Rowan Wilson and Andy Blake to LK (ALL) 4. LK and MD to update AI survey with compute requirements question 5. RL to seek advice from NDS Management Executive Board about concept of an AI Centre of Excellence 6. Provide details of anticipated GPU and computational requirements for the coming year (ALL) 7. PM and RL to seek contacts and info from Digital Transformation team about environmental impact 8. PM to contact Digital Transformation team about centralised storage and sustainability	1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. RL provided an update on discussions with Digital Transformation team 8. As above 9. Completed

	9. LK and BA to circulate the AI survey to new staff and consider integrating it into the online induction	
	1. MD to contact IT Services/MSD IT about joining a future meeting 2. MD and PM to discuss data audit with Jo Snoeck 3. LK, BA and MD to complete and share a document detailing the network members and their AI involvement and expertise	1. Ongoing – PM awaiting response and will follow up 2. Ongoing 3. Ongoing

Agenda Item 7	Date of next meeting
	Monday 10 November 2025 at 2pm