
Deploying algorithms in the public sector

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**What is distinctive
about the public
sector?**

Public interest - question 1

- ▶ Data generated by citizens. 
- ▶ Collection and curation of data paid for by citizens. 

- ▶ **Could there be an obligation for the public sector to ensure the data is used for the public interest?** 




Public interest - question 2

- ▶ Some outcomes can be optimised through speed and operational efficiency.
- ▶ Some outcomes can be optimised through analytic decision-making of complex variables.
- ▶ **What about outcomes that depend on other factors such as relationships or sustained engagement?**

Public interest - question 3

- ▶ There is high public acceptance of the use of algorithms by the private sector.
- ▶ There is societal pressure on policy-makers to regulate the use of algorithms by the private sector.
- ▶ **What are the opportunities for the public sector to show leadership in its use of algorithms and set public expectations for the private sector and civil society?**

Public interest - question 4

- ▶ What are the consequences of attempting a use case and it goes badly? 
- ▶ What are the consequences of attempting a use case and it goes well? 
- ▶ **What are the consequences of not attempting a use case?** 

Summary questions

- ▶ What is **distinctive** about the public sector?
- ▶ Could there be an **obligation** on the public sector to ensure citizen's data is used for the public interest?
- ▶ What about outcomes that depend on factors such as **relationships or sustained engagement**?
- ▶ What are the opportunities for the public sector to **show leadership** in its use of algorithms and **set public expectations** for the private sector and civil society?
- ▶ What are the **consequences of not attempting** a use case?