Change the way you use technology for good

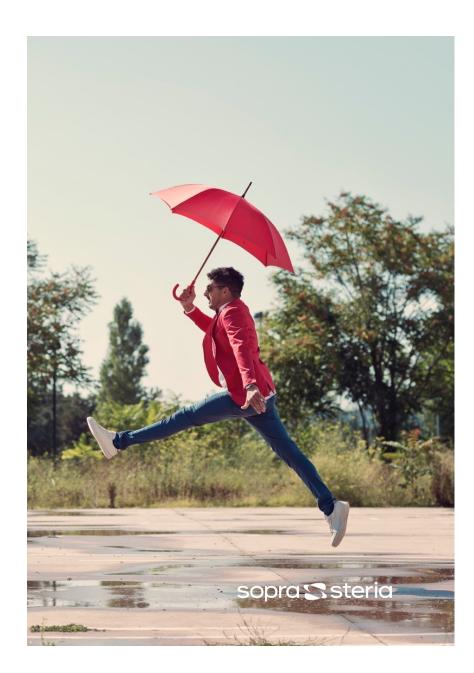
Kevin Macnish, PhD Digital Ethics Consulting Manager kevin.macnish@soprasteria.com





My Story

- Philosophy BA
- International Relations MA
- GCHQ
- Returned to academia in 2007
- Philosophy MA 2008, PhD 2014
- Assistant Professor (Leeds University) 2012-17
- Assistant Professor (University of Twente) 2017-21
- Consulting Manager, Sopra Steria 2021-present
- Research Board Member, IAPP 2021-present



My Role

- Sopra Steria: IT Solutions and Consulting
- Internal and External Consulting
- Internal
 - Work on bids and projects
 - Ensure proposals and projects are ethical
 - Mitigate harms and maximize benefits for users and society
- External
 - Work with clients to mitigate ethical challenges and develop ethical benefits of their work



Example - Internal

Ethical Debt Management

People owe the government money (e.g. unpaid taxes, fines, etc.)

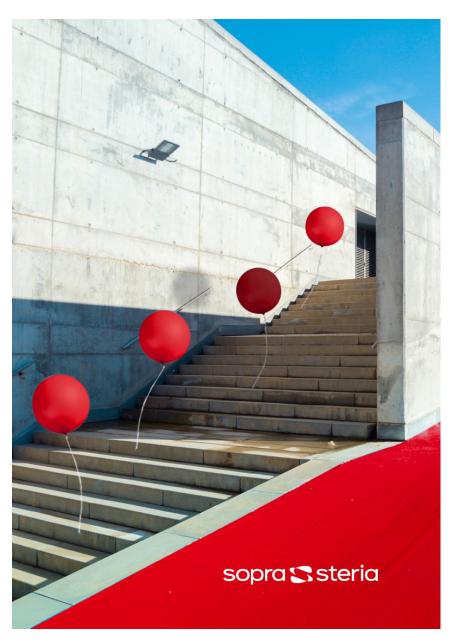
Developed service to help people determine how best to repay

Need to help users who are vulnerable

Developed tool with data analytics to this end

Work with charities to provide support





Example - External

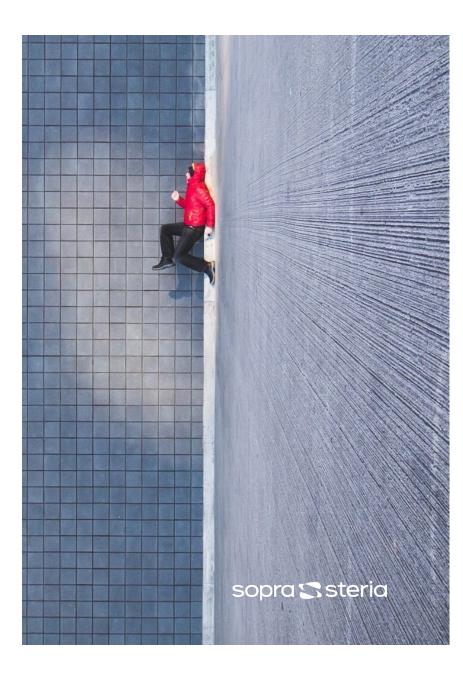
Harrow Borough Council (London)

Improve digital services requires improving data and knowledge

Worked with UX and Council to develop digital ethics strategy and framework

Led to 10% increase in citizen trust in Council's management and use of personal data





Reflections

SPECIFIC

Academia – more leisurely, but slower?

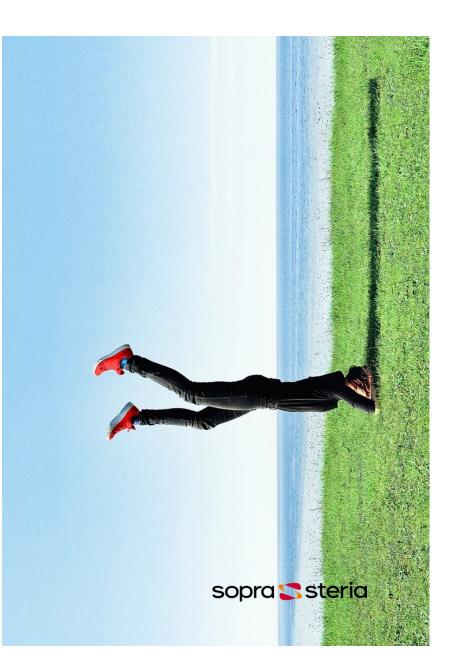
Near instant impact on people's lives vs 5-year lag on publications

Going beyond finding problems to solving problems

Very new – sense of being in a start-up

• No time for "real" research



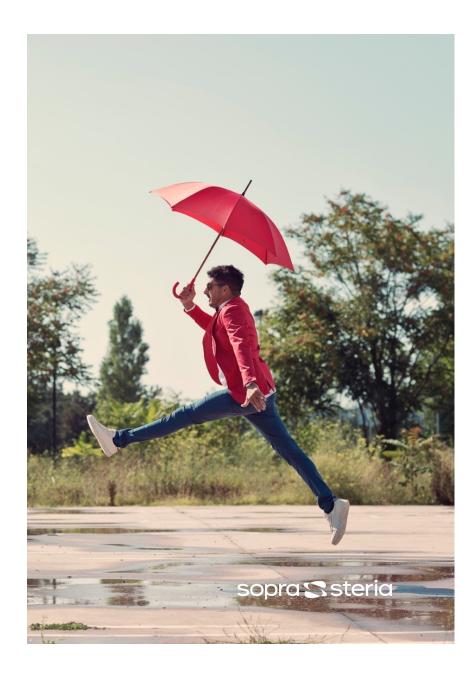


Reflections

GENERAL

Companies not as advanced in ML as it seemed in academia GDPR good but stifling innovation





Reflections

PERSONAL

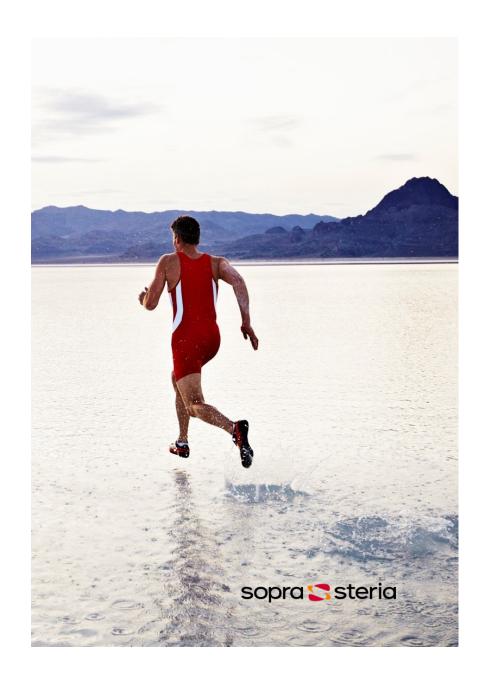
Lose autonomy over time (and less holiday)

More, shorter meetings

Better pay ;-)

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Thank-you!

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