Transcript

Tris Lumley focussed on what happens when user voice, collaboration and technology collide, with a particular focus on the non-profit sector, and the role the non-profit sector plays for social good and social impact.

Tris spoke of the need for both the charity sector and the private sector to collaborate and use technology for good by walking the talk! He explained that community consultation is imperative to find answers to what the community needs and wants, otherwise technology is doomed to fail.

Tris' most important message was around ownership of data. As non-profits work on behalf of individuals and communities, the need to recognise that data belongs to them is an important consideration in data for public good initiatives. This recognition of data ownership is one important part of putting communities at the centre and solidarity is the answer moving forward.

We've heard a lot of the right principles earlier today about how we should approach technology. What I'm saying about aligning incentives is it's very hard actually to put those principles into practice. But so for us, working with young people, that means putting young people at the centre of the governance and decision-making and actually knowing from communities what do we want and need. So that's a pretty simple thing. Whenever we're doing something with technology, if we can't answer the question "What do the people or communities who are supposed to benefit actually want and need?" then we will fail.

We build from people's lived experience. The tech sector gets user-centred design. The social sector does in principle. Let's make that a reality.

We need to collaborate because actually that's my way of aligning the incentives. The money and the power are a problem but if we gang up on that problem, collectively, then actually we can overwhelm it so we need to collaborate relentlessly.

We need to be as close to open source as we possibly can. So if we fund work in this space. If we support it we should say 'well can we open source it?' That should be one of our first questions.

And maybe the most important thing (which I don't have time to go into but maybe we can in questions) is to say is as non-profits, we exist on behalf of people and communities. So if we have data, we are stewards of that data on your behalf. It is your data from a principles kind of perspective. The human rights perspective says it's your data. And actually some of the most exciting efforts around this come from indigenous communities saying "these are the principles through which you should work if you're going to work with us." The OCAP principles in Canada, for example.

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