iridium

Institutional Research Data Management at Newcastle University

University Research Office, the Digital Institute, the University Library and Information Systems & Services

Aim

iridium aims to produce a complete holistic plan and infrastructure for Research Data Management (RDM) at Newcastle University, making data generated by research at the University both available and widely discoverable with effective curation throughout the full data lifecycle in consultation with the researchers who produce it.

Objectives

The *iridium* project objectives are:

- Survey of current policy and practice coupled with a requirements analysis
- A coherent framework of policy and practice in order to effect institutional data management
- Identify the tools required to support the policy and practice framework
- Identify existing institutional systems that could form part of a RDM infrastructure
- Produce a “Human Support Infrastructure” consisting of training and guidance on good practice, tools and systems
- Integrate the policy framework, RDM systems and support infrastructure to provide a pilot RDM infrastructure
- Evaluate the pilot RDM infrastructure across all faculties in order to produce a costed business case for sustainability
- Document and disseminate all processes and findings in order to inform the University, the Programme and community at large
- Liaise with the Programme and the Data Curation Centre throughout in order to disseminate, evaluate and validate project outcomes and deliverables

Approach

The *iridium* project’s approach is detailed in Figure 1, with current topics of discussion internally within the project, represented as a mind map in Figure 2. Policy layering and policy space concepts are illustrated in Figure 3.

Key deliverables

- Requirements identified and illustrated through case studies from exemplar projects
- Policies, systems and human support infrastructure implemented
- Costed business plan for sustainability

What success will look like

- Stakeholders engaged
- Institutional buy-in
- Permanent change to practice
- Fitness for purpose of RDM systems demonstrated
- Influence beyond project on other policies
- Data routinely discovered

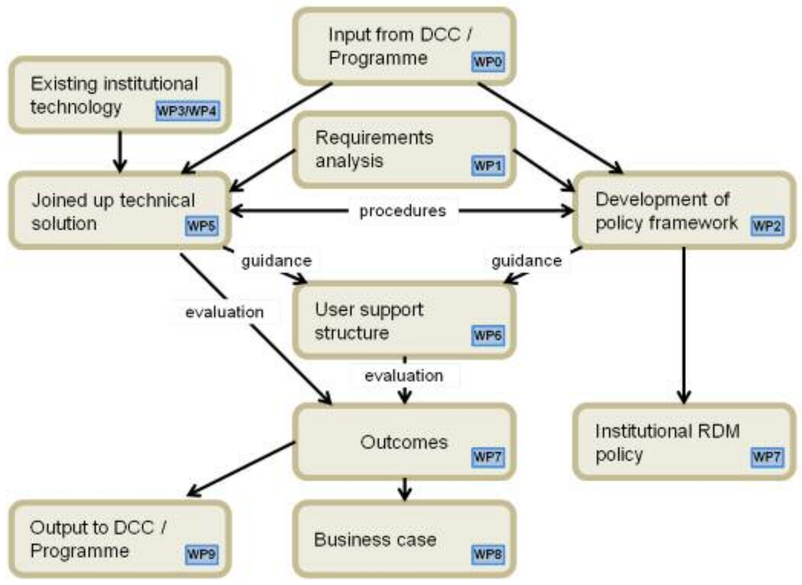

Figure 1. Illustration showing overview of *iridium* project’s approach and associated workpackages.

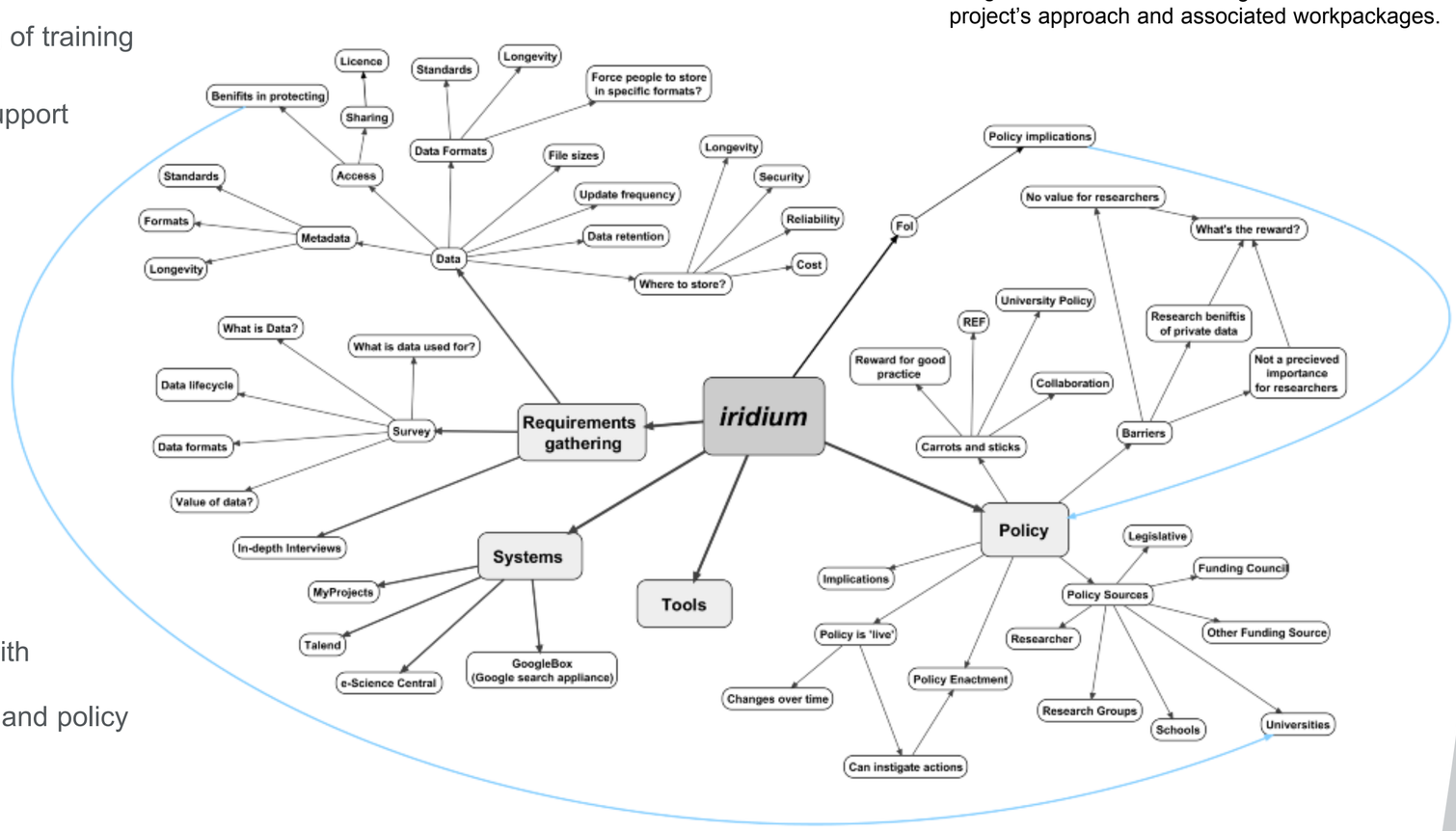

Figure 2. Current project topics have been recorded on an evolving mind map.

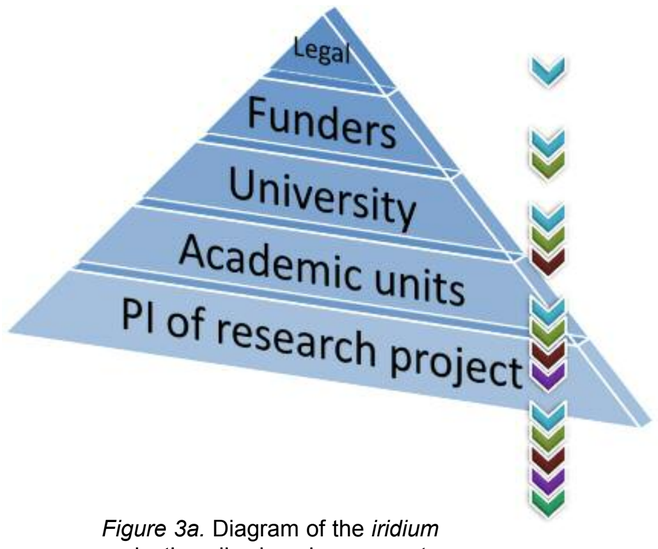

Figure 3a. Diagram of the *iridium* project’s policy layering concept

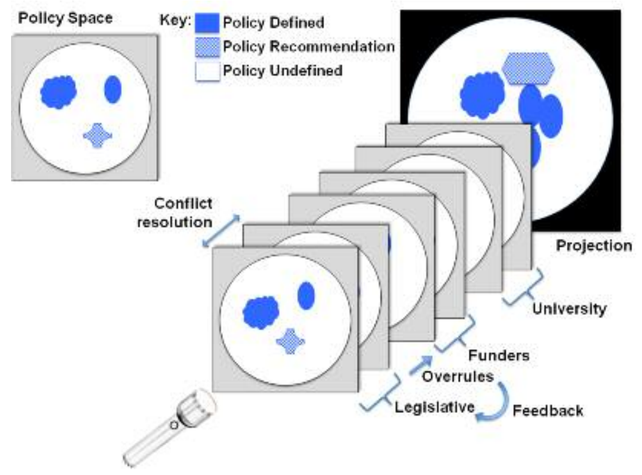

Figure 3b. Diagram of the *iridium* project’s policy space concept

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