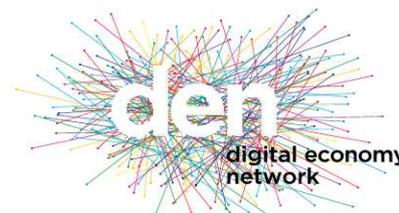**DIGITAL ECONOMY DIVERSITY NETWORK (DEDN) MEETING**

Friday 23 March 2018, 9.45am - 4.30pm

Meeting Room 5, Jubilee Conference Centre, University of Nottingham, NG7 2TU

The 3rd DEDN Meeting theme: Access and accessibility: The breaking down of barriers
Hosted by the [Horizon Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT)](#) in My Life in Data

Venue website**:** https://www.phcompany.com/de-vere/jubilee-conference-centre/

AGENDA

Thursday 22 March

19:00   Meal at [Las Iguanas](#) Restaurant, Nottingham City Centre

Attendees staying overnight will stay at the [De Vere Jubilee Conference Centre Hotel](#)

Friday 23 March

09:45   **Arrival refreshments and registration**

10:00   **Welcome and introductions**
- DEDN Update/Update from the last Meeting – Alexa Spors, Horizon CDT Student
- Brief Digital Economy Network (DEN) update – Felicia Black, DEN Manager

10:30   **DEDN policy priority areas – e.g.:**
- Paid sickness leave for postgraduate research (PGR) students
- Childcare funding/support for PGR conference/event attendance
- Mental health support and provision for PGR students
- Sign off of DEN/DEDN Event Code of Conduct

11:00   **Workshop & Discussion**: **Access & accessibility – The breaking down of barriers**
Open discussion and knowledge/experience sharing from CDT representatives on this area.

12:30   **Restaurant lunch – Jubilee Conference Centre**

13:15   **Access & accessibility discussion continues**
Open discussion and knowledge/experience sharing from CDT representatives on this area.

14:00   **Talk by Chad Gowler, University of York: Accessibility on the Web (plus Q&A)**
(See Chad's biography and synophsis overleaf)

15:00   **Next Steps/Actions based on day's discussions**
- Agreed actions to focus on based on the outcomes of the day.

- Suggest date, venue and host CDT for next meeting (June/July 2018)

16:30   **Meeting close**
Optional post-meeting social/drinks

<u>Biography: Chad Gowler</u>

Chad is a human-computer interaction masters student at the University of York with a background of web development, most recently as a React developer for Sky. Their research focus is looking at how to improve take up of accessible development in organisations building upon their work experience. Outside of tech they give talks about mental health in technical teams, building software for gender inclusivity and is a recent convert to gaming in virtual reality.

Synopsis: 16% of working age adults, and 45% of retired adults, have some form of disability. Most of our interactions with institutions and leisure is done online. It is important that these services can be used by disabled people. In this talk, we will look at the basics of accessibility on the web and how to deal with the big problem points described by disabled users. We will also look at how screenreaders are used and how to test with them.