



# Digital Repositories Town Meeting

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THE UNIVERSITY OF HULL



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Excellence

# Institutions and repositories

- What role do repositories play within an institution?
- What role could they play?
- How can repositories support institutional processes?



# Why a repository?

- Digital methods and practices are complementing/replacing traditional ones
- Outputs are invariably in digital form
  - as surrogates and as primary sources
- Affects all walks of institutional life
  - learning, teaching, research, administration



# Why a repository? (2)

- External digital initiatives
  - distribution of digital materials from suppliers/  
government/funders
  - digitisation initiatives
- **There is a need to manage and preserve these materials**



# What is a repository?

*Records management*

*File store*

Research  
outputs

Archive

- Different views of the elephant. **Any or all of these**

Learning materials

*Library content*

*Image collection*



# Independent development

- Established services
- Current developments
  - large and small scale
- Parallel developments
- Specialised



# Integration

- Co-ordinate these developments
  - single or multiple repositories?
- Consider preservation more
  - balance with service delivery
- Connect in-house and external repositories
  - sharing and exchanging information



# Building services

- Using the data available in repositories
- Providing access to multiple sources and types of information
- Making repositories greater than the sum of their parts



# Establishing user needs

- What do users require that repositories can deliver?
- What are the implications for users in using and interacting with repositories?
  - Human Resources
  - IPR
  - Personal vs institutional repositories



# Testing technology

- Repository software
  - Many open source options
  - How to use the repository effectively
- Software to support services on top of repositories
- Metadata



# Why now?

- Existing work has highlighted the importance of repositories and raised issues and questions
  - FAIR, X4L, institutional initiatives
- Need to address these to enable effective use of repositories
- Explore possibilities of what repositories can do



# Summary

- Repositories are here already
- Their potential is untapped
- They can underpin many institutional processes and enable others
- We need to know more to use them effectively

