Heads of Planning Scotland Conference 2021

DIGITAL PRACTICE AND FUTURE WAYS OF WORKING

Colin Birchenall
Chief Technology Officer
Digital Office for Scottish Local Government

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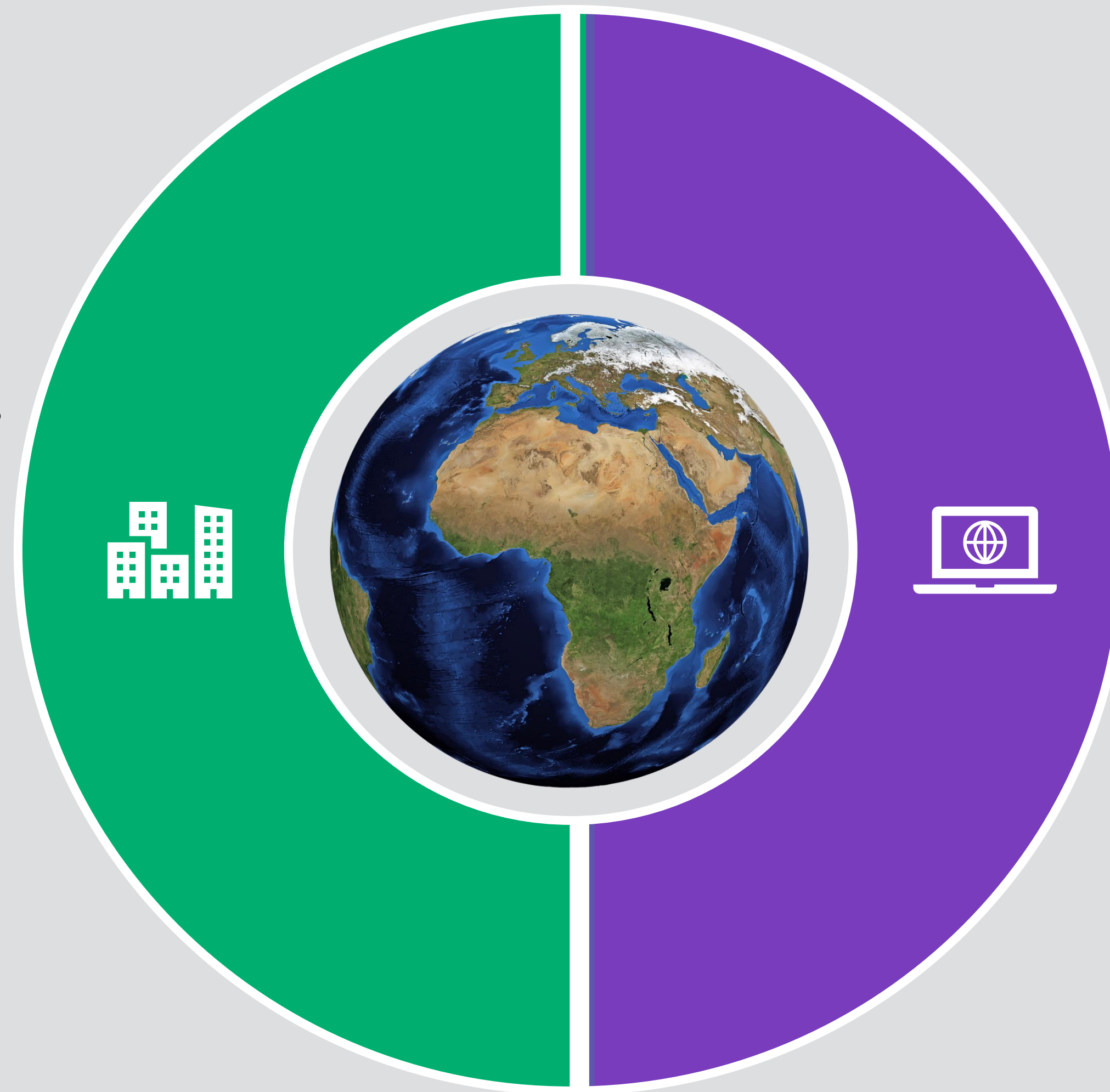
WE LIVE IN TWO WORLDS

PHYSICAL WORLD

CHARACTERISTICS

Facilitates Local Networks
Physical Presence
Physical goods, services, transactions
Physical transport and distribution
Face-to-face communications
Relies on Memory and intuition

DIGITAL WORLD

CHARACTERISTICS

Enables Global Networks
Virtual presence
Virtual goods, services, transactions
A "Mouse-click"
Virtual communications
Relies on Data

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SO WHAT IF WE COULDN'T ACCESS ONE?

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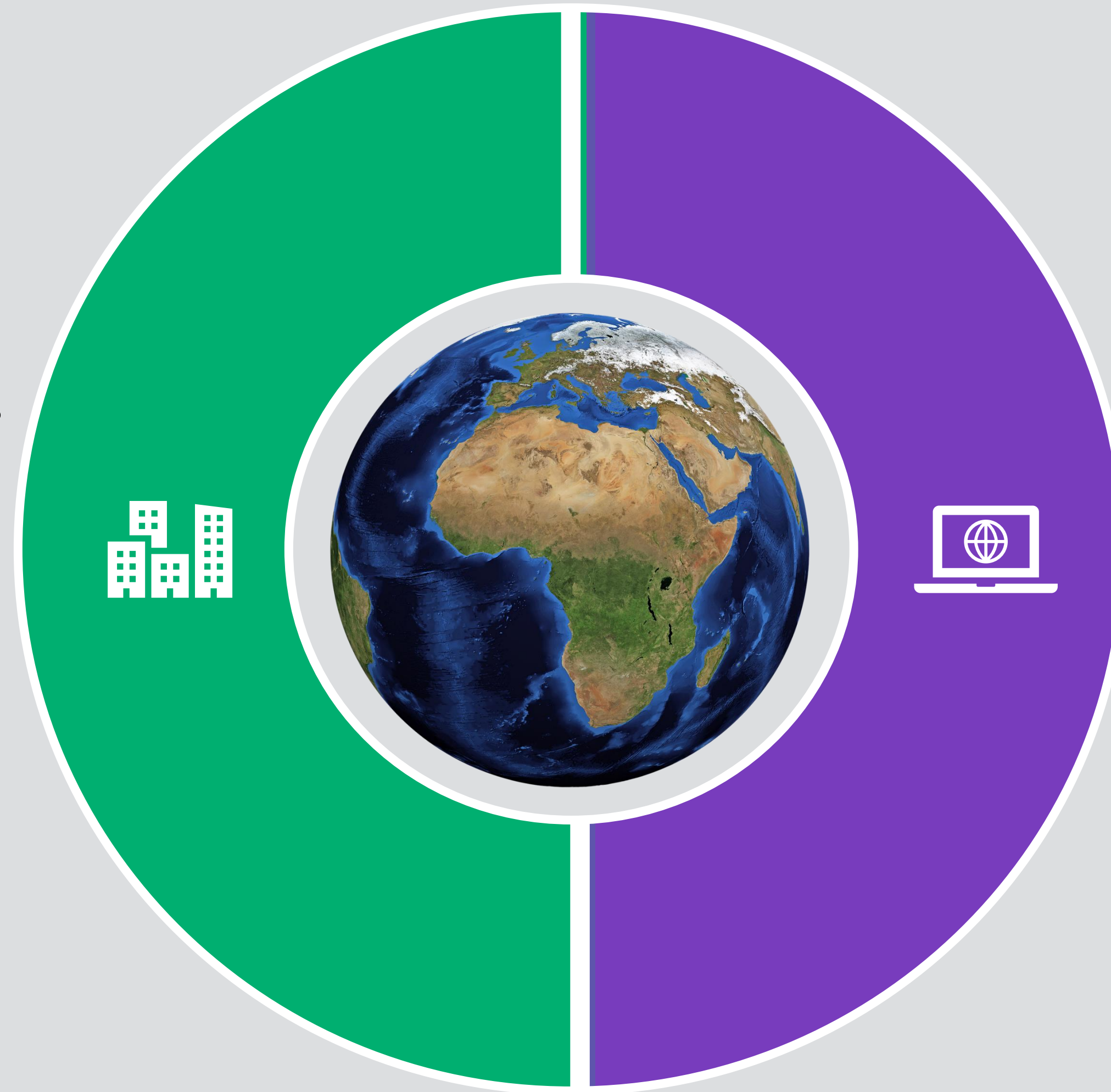
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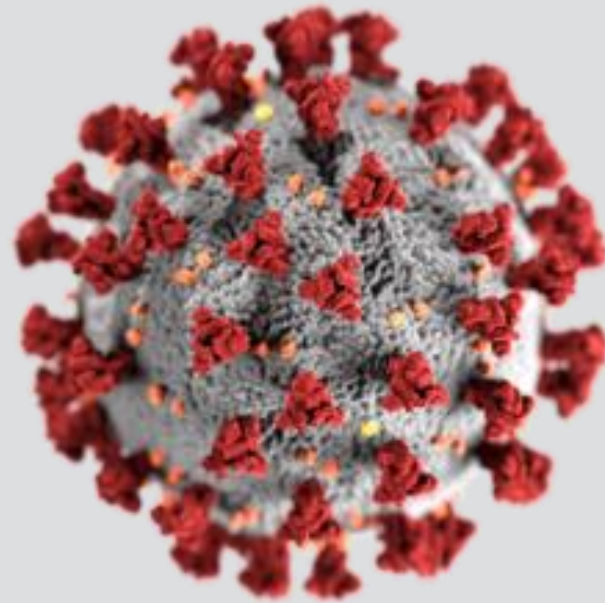Relies on Memory and intuition

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BUT WHAT IF
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PHYSICAL WORLD

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FABRIC/INFRASTRUCTURE

Buildings
Infrastructure
Utilities
Built Environment
Greenspace
Land

DIGITAL WORLD

CHARACTERISTICS

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FABRIC/INFRASTRUCTURE

Internet
Software
Computer Processing and Storage
Digital Connectivity
End-User Devices
IoT Devices/Sensors

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So how have we adapted?

Business Continuity

- Shift towards Laptop Devices, "Bring Your Own Device"
- Video calls (including meetings, committees, citizens, events)
- Cloud-based applications have faired better
- Virtual contact centres
- Rapid acceleration of online transactions

Response to the Pandemic

- Rapid deployment of new (cloud-based) digital solutions
- More pragmatic approach to data sharing
- Big focus on data and data-driven decision-making
- Greater focus on collaboration and partnership-working

Return to Work

- Greater focus on digital booking of assets
- Greater use of contactless technologies
- Focus on enabling flexible work patterns
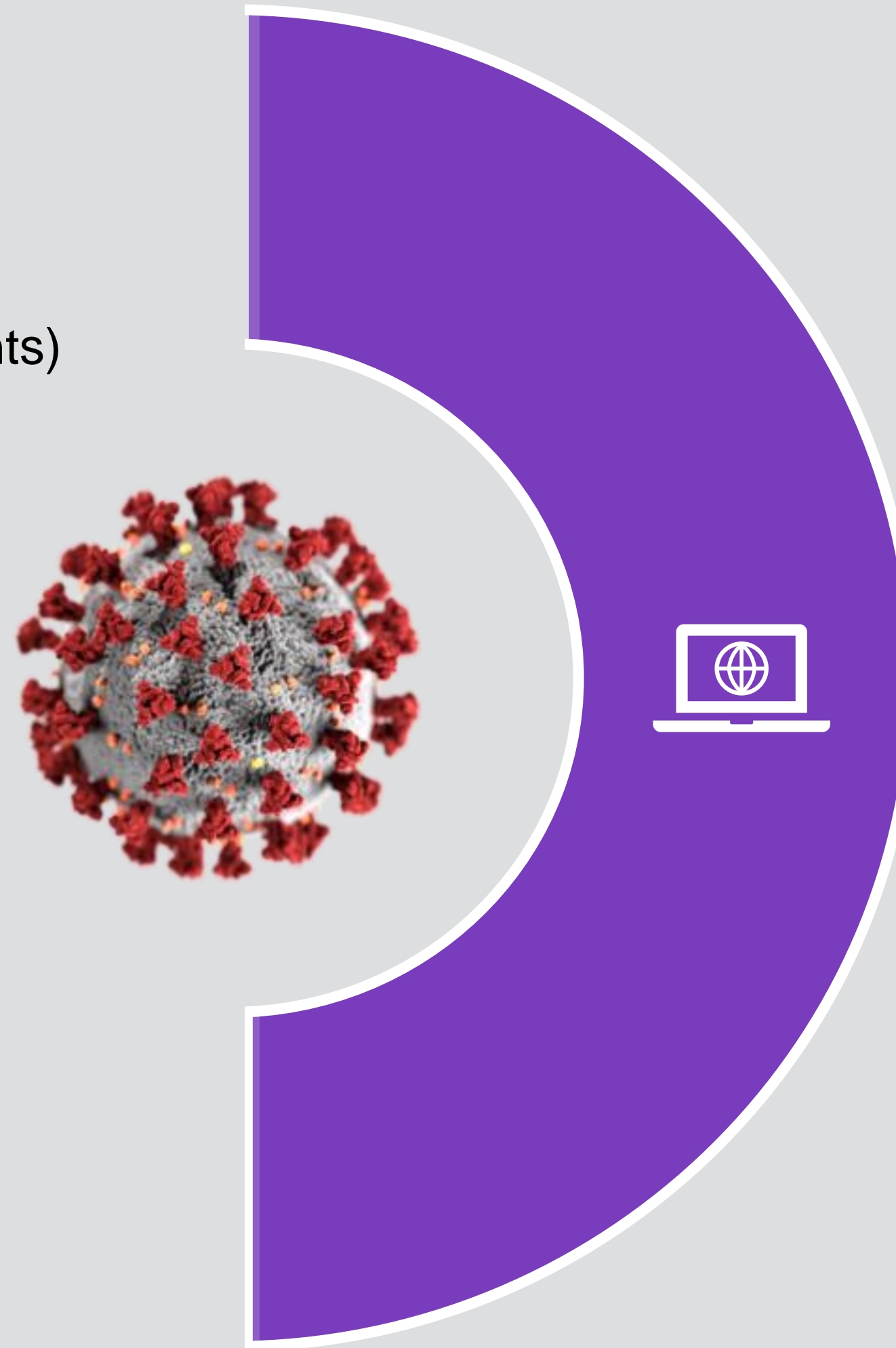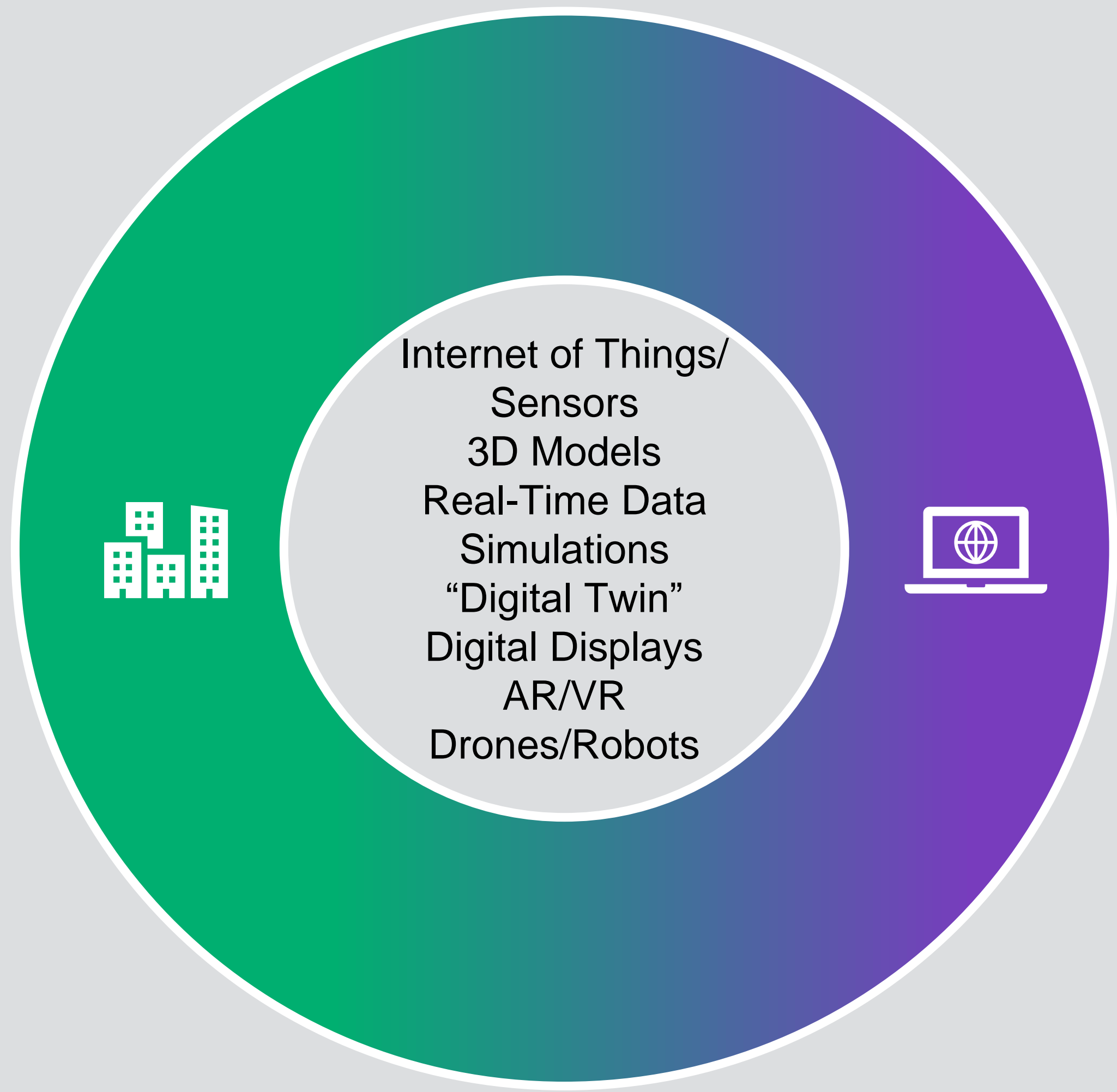
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ACTUALLY
THERE IS ONLY ONE WORLD

Internet of Things/
Sensors
3D Models
Real-Time Data
Simulations
"Digital Twin"
Digital Displays
AR/VR
Drones/Robots

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WE WERE ALREADY LIVING
IN THE 4th INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

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SO WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

DIGITAL PROGRESS IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Six characteristics
1. Digital Leadership & Skills
2. User Focused
3. Digital Workforce
4. Technology & Data Enabled
5. Collaborative
6. Innovative

https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/report/digital-progress-in-local-government

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A CHANGING NATION: HOW SCOTLAND WILL THRIVE IN A DIGITAL WORLD

Developed in partnership between Scottish Government and Local Government.

Three themes, seven action plans;

Part One: People and Place
- No-one Left Behind
- An Ethical Digital Nation
- Digital Education and Skills

Part Two: A Strong Digital Economy
- Helping all Businesses to become digital
- Supporting our Tech Sector

Part Three: Digital Government and Services
- Public Services that work for All
- Transforming Government

A Changing Nation:
How Scotland will Thrive in a Digital World

Digital Scotland

Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

https://www.gov.scot/publications/a-changing-nation-how-scotland-will-thrive-in-a-digital-world/

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TRANSFORMING PLACES TOGETHER

Digital Planning Strategy developed by Scottish Government in collaboration with COSLA, SOLACE, HOPS, RTPI, Socitm, the Digital Office, and Improvement Service.

Five Missions:-
1. Unblock the value of planning data
2. Deliver an end-to-end digital planning experience
3. Create the conditions for digital to flourish
4. Use digital tools to drive collaboration and engagement
5. Embed a culture of digital innovation

https://www.transformingplanning.scot/digital-planning/scotlands-digital-strategy-for-planning/

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THE STEP CHANGE IN DIGITAL WE HAVE JUST WITNESSED IS NOTHING COMPARED TO WHAT'S AHEAD

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THANK YOU

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