- **Key messages from call #3**, which was focused on **understanding 'how we get to where we'd like to be'** → see recording, as well as an inventory of the postings on the two mural boards
  - **User stories** (breakout session 1) – Most now understand the scale of the transformation, some would like a 'Google search' user story and a 'national policymaker' user story (although this is really story #2 about the evidence intermediaries), and some have remaining uncertainties about:
    - What we mean by 'already processed data' and 'synthesis-ready data'
    - What it will mean if the data are extracted for a different question than the one now being asked
    - How to get people to trust the data enough to reuse it, including how we will approach quality assurance
    - How data sharing and reusing will work in practical terms (e.g., with DOIs, tool integration)
    - How revenue sharing will work
  - **Capabilities** (breakout session 2a) – Support for the capabilities, although this is a long list to add to, edit or delete from in a short period of time
  - **Centralized, federated or indexed options** (breakout session 2b) – Support for the federated and especially for the third (indexed) option → see a description from Brian Alper about the third option
  - **External supports** (breakout session 2c) – Support for the entire list, with early priority given to ownership (#2 in list) and governance (#3) in list
  - **Two key next steps**
    - Support Global South co-leadership to deliver on the 'remaining' open data system capabilities (along with a communication from the funders to remind the community about how previous competitive calls and peer-review processes, and one procurement process for a minimum viable product, had identified a group that is well advanced in creating an open-source data system) → see a memo from the FIG executive
    - Commission external support and working with a small ODS planning group, comprised of key data owners, to develop a proposal that can be shared publicly (ideally in the second half of March) for consultation with data owners and concurrent tech specifications development with tech leaders → Note that the new thinking is that the issue of centralized, federated or indexed is now likely to be worked out through this tech specifications step

- **Key messages from call #2**, which was focused on **understanding 'where we'd like to be and by when'** → recording (note that unfortunately the recording doesn't include the last several minutes of the call)
  - Open data system perspectives → see slides, with the caveat from James that me did the assessment of capabilities (slides 23-26) quickly and may have missed something
    - Documented summary of current and planned capabilities of the repository so that it's clear what the team sees as the **responsibility of the repository – primarily reading and writing data** – and what is the responsibility of other services and tools that are built and maintained independently
    - Confirmed **openness to hearing if someone else can clear the same bar** as what was described: 1) open-source approach to needed capabilities, 2) modular approach that is already being rolled out across sectors other than health, and 3) a budget of £10M+ already in hand (which Wellcome can then complement with additional funding to Global South leaders) → Tariq to organize a call with BIREME (Joao), Epistemonikos (Gabriel), PAHO (Ludovic), and 3ie (Tamara)
    - Noted that whether or not there is one contender for the repository, we need to **determine which capabilities will be addressed by other services and tools**, examples of which are laid out in the draft capabilities briefing document

- Suggestion that everyone would benefit from publicly shared, detailed, **technical roadmaps** about what each contributor expects to deliver and by when
    - Global South perspectives → see slides and the 20-minute video
        - Documented summary of Global South **aspirations** for the repository, which align to a great extent with the vision provided by James
    - Cross-cutting issue about whether the data are in:
        - A **centralized** repository as suggested by James (possible advantages: quality assurance)
        - A **federated**, interoperable set of repositories with aligned taxonomies, tagging, extraction, etc. as suggested by Laurenz/Rhona and others (possible advantages: consistent with ESIC roadmap, greater trust among contributors and users, greater resilience if contexts shift)
    - Synthesis-producer perspectives → see slides
        - Significant interest at Cochrane in exploring sustainable business models, change management, etc.

- **Key messages from call #1**, which was focused on **understanding 'where we are'** → see recording
    - Funder perspectives
        - Keen to leverage <u>existing</u> funding of roughly £10 million in an open data system that will serve many sectors (not just health); these funds were allocated through peer-review processes that had taken place before the ESIC roadmap was published
        - Asking how we can best use <u>new</u> funding from ESIC to support a Global South coalition to co-lead an open data system that has the full range of needed capabilities and that covers all sectors (and that will intersect with other foundational investments, particularly the sectoral and regional hubs)
    - Open data system perspectives → see slides
        - Well advanced in building an open-source, transparently documented, connected system of living evidence data repositories with data standards, interoperability & quality assurance → one that can deliver open, harmonised, synthesis-ready data across many sectors
    - Global South perspectives
        - Consensus about supporting, and examples of 'walking the talk' in supporting, Global South leadership
        - Capabilities and leadership have been demonstrated with local tech solutions and with portfolios and systems of tools and applications, albeit with challenges noted in the next two bullet points
        - Need to move beyond cobbled together project funding, explore new funding models (e.g., pay for data via APIs or for tech-platform access), and reduce dependence on high-cost tech stacks
        - Need to shift to having Global South leaders select partners and set terms of engagement (and away from always having Global North leaders being the ones to select partners and set terms)
    - Synthesis-producer perspectives → see slides
        - Three large networks (Campbell, Cochrane and JBI) are at different places in terms of their organizational policies, current practices, and current business models (e.g., Cochrane has a lot of the data-sharing building blocks worked out but many issues to work through with data ownership and a business model, whereas JBI has not yet had the demand or support to move towards an open data system with its more heterogenous topics and methods)
    - Touchpoints participant list → see Excel file

**Context**

- The ESIC Funders interest group (FIG) executive has confirmed its support for the Wellcome Trust's suggestion of a series of Teams calls with key interest holders to work through three questions related to the foundational investment in an open data system:
  1) How can we move from research project(s) led by a few to a co-owned, distributed 'open data system' that people trust? [i.e., feel invested in, contribute insights to & engage in testing of (e.g., for/in different contexts & sectors), & add data to and draw data from]
  2) How can we fund Global South contributors in a way that gives them a path to (co)leadership?
  3) How can we set the stage for sharing and reusing the future flow of humans-in-the-loop 'processed synthesis data' (not just for sharing and reusing synthesis-ready data that can be drawn from OpenAlex and processed by machines)?