

BRAID Stakeholder Forum (BRAIDSF)
Online meeting

Minutes: 24 April 2026

Chair: Karen Salt, Independent Chair [KS] (Manchester Metropolitan University)

Forum Members: 14 Forum Members and 1 Proxy Member in attendance.

Forum Secretariat: Dean Chalmers [DC] (BRAID)
Nayha Sethi [NS] (BRAID)
Octavia Field Reid [OFR] (Ada Lovelace Institute)

Guests: Tina Donnelly [TD] (BRAID)
Ewa Luger [EL] (BRAID)
Gavin Leuzzi [GL] (BRAID)
Paula Mika [PM] (BRAID)
Ali Shah [AS] (Accenture/Ada Lovelace Institute)
Magdalena Brzeska [MB] (Ada Lovelace Institute)
Bronwyn Jones [BJ] (Responsible Innovation Centre and BRAID)
Antonia Kerle [AK] (BBC)

Apologies: 3 Forum Members sent apologies and did not attend.

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair KS introduced herself, her role as Chair, and welcomed participants to the first BRAID Stakeholder Forum. Apologies for absence were reported as noted above.

Chair briefly introduced the core secretariat (DC, NS, OFR) for the Stakeholder Forum.

Chair reminded participants of online meeting etiquette, to mute mic when not speaking, raise hand to speak, use chat function discerningly and to avoid the use of acronyms to ensure the discussion is as accessible as possible.

To ensure a safe space for members and discussion, the Chair asked that photographs are not taken and that other modes of recording are not used for meetings.

Members were asked to notify the secretariat of any conflicts of interest relevant to the content. These will be recorded in the minutes below. The Chair informed members that the secretariat will formally review the conflicts log annually.

Members introduced themselves, articulating their sector/interests and motivations for joining the Forum and aspects they are interested in. These included:

- wishing to represent their community, sector, professional discipline or organisation,
- to feed into responsible AI discussions and inform strategies for responsible adoption.
- to consider AI literacy, reduction of potential harms, particularly for communities most affected, as well as opportunities for innovation.

The Chair noted the enthusiasm, breadth of knowledge, expertise and experience that the members bring to the Forum.

2. Overview of BRAID

EL (Co-Director of BRAID) gave an overview of the BRAID Programme. This included:

- explaining the significance of the work being carried out for AI
- why an arts and humanities approach is critical to consideration of the development and deployment of AI given the impact such technologies can have
- challenging the myth of AI which benefits some organisations using it for commercial advantage at the expense of human flourishing
- BRAID's role in pushing back on this AI myth, by understanding and sharing more about how communities and individuals can resist or protect themselves
- How BRAID actively works with non-academic stakeholders and aims to make a difference in the real world.

Discussion by BRAID Stakeholder members: It was noted that there are fears surrounding AI and the pace of adoption. It was suggested that discussions are lacking on what can be done to address these concerns. Relatedly, it was stressed that we ought to be asking 'how can we create the conditions and infrastructure that will break down some of those barriers?' and 'What is the challenge and how do we address that challenge, especially for rural areas?'

ACTION: BRAID Secretariat to share slide deck with Stakeholder members.

3. Overview of Ada Lovelace Institute & BRAID Partnership

OFR and AS presented on the Ada Lovelace Institute and the organisation's role in BRAID. OFR flagged the related opportunity to participate in the Ada Lovelace Community Forum and invited interested members to get in touch.

AS encouraged Forum Members to have robust debate and bring forward their unique perspectives, given that this is a critical moment as AI advances and permeates our society. The need to recenter the development of AI around our collective communities – or pay the price in the years to come was highlighted.

Discussion by BRAID Stakeholder members: The question was raised about how members will receive information about potentially joining the Ada Lovelace Community Forum. OFR clarified that this would happen although Members are welcome to submit expressions of interest to join independently of any BRAID-related communications. Details can be found here:

<https://www.adalovelaceinstitute.org/project/the-ada-community-forum/>

4. Overview of BBC & BRAID Partnership

AK and BJ presented about BBC R&D and their contribution to BRAID. Also mentioned was the Responsible Innovation Centre which is running deliberative work with the public, which includes questions around AI.

No further discussion was held.

Shared links to BBC and BRAID work included:

[responsible-innovation-centre-ai-literacies-young-adults.pdf](#)

[Enhancing Responsible AI Literacy at BBC and beyond - BRAID UK](#)

[Explainable Generative AI in the BBC - BRAID UK](#)

[Our media futures: A public forum on technology, innovation, and public service media](#)

5. Determining future Forum topics together

The Chair clarified that in combination with pre-determined BRAID topics for future Forums, there is scope for Forum members to shape topics for future meetings, and an eagerness to ensure the Forum is responsive to those preferences. Members were divided into breakout groups to identify and prioritize the topics they would like the Forum to explore in future meetings.

The following priority themes emerged from the discussions:

- Discussing the connection between responsible and irresponsible AI – making sure conversations include consideration of both of those dimensions
- AI Literacy, including AI fluency, AI divides, skills, jobs and access to encompass
- Critical AI literacy – pausing before deployment, understanding the different contexts and domains
- Exploring what future jobs will look like
- Unpacking what literacy means, what organisations mean by literacy and particularly age-based divides, focussing on children and how they are being encouraged to speak to machines
- The need to specifically consider marginalised communities in all contexts

- Exploring how we can focus on local place-based benefits and meaningful learning including from voices often excluded, e.g. via advocacy groups
- Understanding how we can meaningfully draw on the interweaving of different disciplines to explore the meaning of responsible AI
- Considering how to sustain public listening
- Discussing the role of funders in empowering and enabling diverse voices
- Reflecting on what we do with the outputs of the Stakeholder Forum, paying special attention to avoiding performativity
- The impact of moving to scale, minimum viable responsible AI within smaller organisations, and mentoring as part of deployment and what that would look like
- Harms, justice, mitigation, advocacy, redress of harm
- Agentic AI and implications of this in relation to previous topics
- The importance of moving discussions on responsible AI into practice
- Addressing the divide between government and individuals

The Chair thanked members for outlining their priorities, which would help shape future meeting planning.

ACTION: BRAID Secretariat to follow up and consider how to prioritise identified themes.

6. Reviewing BRAID Stakeholder Forum materials

The Chair raised the Terms of Reference document sent out prior to the meeting for discussion. The Chair invited questions and comments on both documents. There were none.

The Chair informed members that they would receive a member's agreement and other paperwork to ensure they could receive their honorarium if they were seeking one, and to keep an eye out for communications from BRAID about this,

7. AOB and Member questions

The Chair fielded questions from Members about how Forum conversations will be recorded and shared and how meeting actions would be tracked. It was noted that members would be informed as to which matters discussed at meetings ought to be kept confidential.

The BRAID team will give consideration to potential approaches towards enhancing impact of the Forum, and to communication channels to facilitate exchange between members outside of Forum meetings, noting capacity as an issue.

The Chair thanked everyone for their time and contributions, stating that we would be in touch again soon, and the likely timing for the next Forum would be in September 2026.