



Essex County Council



**DIGITAL**  
ESSEX

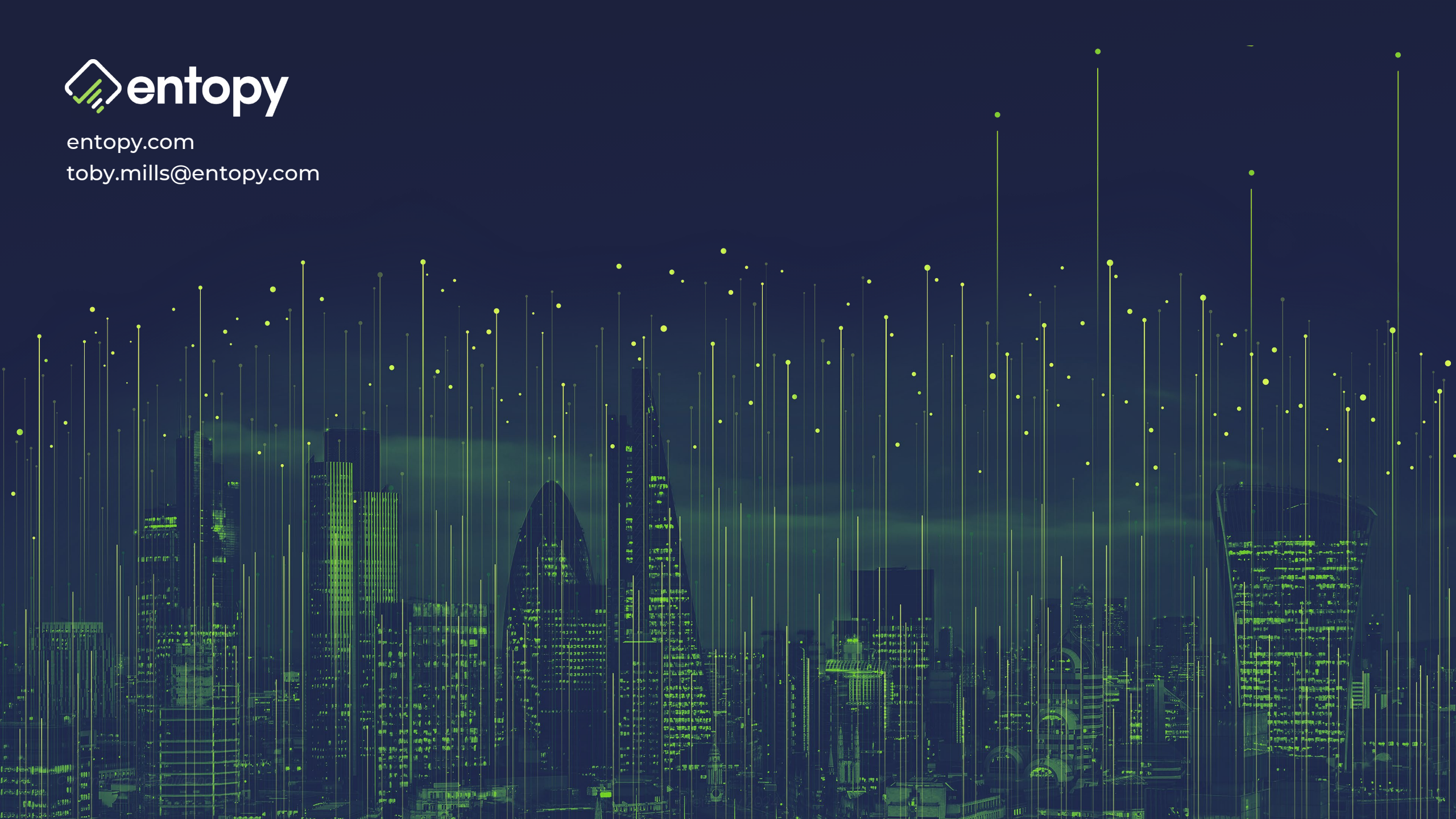
# **Toby Mills and Dan Smith**

## *Entropy*



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# SMART bid

Adaptive orchestration framework of scalable and sustainable Digital Twin and AI across real-world, operational environments.

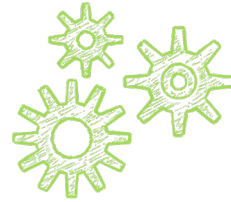
- Quick intro to Entopy
- What is Digital Twin?
- Example / case study
- The SMART bid:
  - The proposal & timelines
  - The innovation
  - What this will deliver for ECC



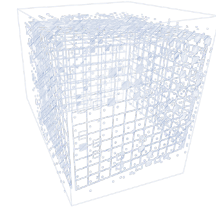
# Quick intro to Entopy...



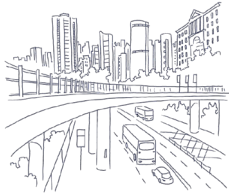
Newmarket, Suffolk



Engineers & data scientists



AI-enabled Digital Twin platform



Focus on roads & critical infrastructure



Large-scale & high-profile deployments



R&D & Growth  
(Universities, UKRI)



# What is a Digital Twin?

A digital twin is a digital representation of a physical asset, process or system. It is distinguished from any other digital model by its dynamic connection to the physical twin.

- Historical data
- Internet of Things
- Models (AI/ML)
- Other sources

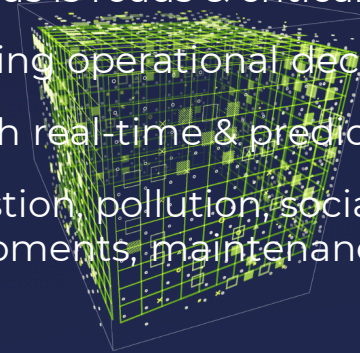


Data

- Our focus is roads & critical infrastructure
- Improving operational decision making

- Through real-time & predictive intelligence
- Congestion, pollution, social impact, future developments, maintenance

Information



- Holistic intelligence
- Automation
- Simulation / testing
- Digital tools



Toby Mills

Dashboard

Monitoring

Trends

Models

Admin Tools

API

Settings

Logout

## Dashboard *Port of Dover*

Predicted freight

**142**

next 3 hours

Predicted freight

**387**

next 6 hours



**1 hour 11 mins**

ETA from Dartford Tunnel



**15 mins**

ETA from A20 Court Wood

### Road traffic alerts

20:00 PM **ROADWORKS**  
Status : Currently Active M20

ETA: 44 mins

20:00 PM **ROADWORKS**  
Status : Currently Active M20

ETA: 25 mins

CURRENT  
16th January



**3°C**  
Partly cloudy

17TH  
January



**3°C**  
Patched rain possible

18TH  
January



**2°C**  
Sunny

19TH  
January



**1°C**  
Sunny

20TH  
January



**3°C**  
Overcast

21ST  
January

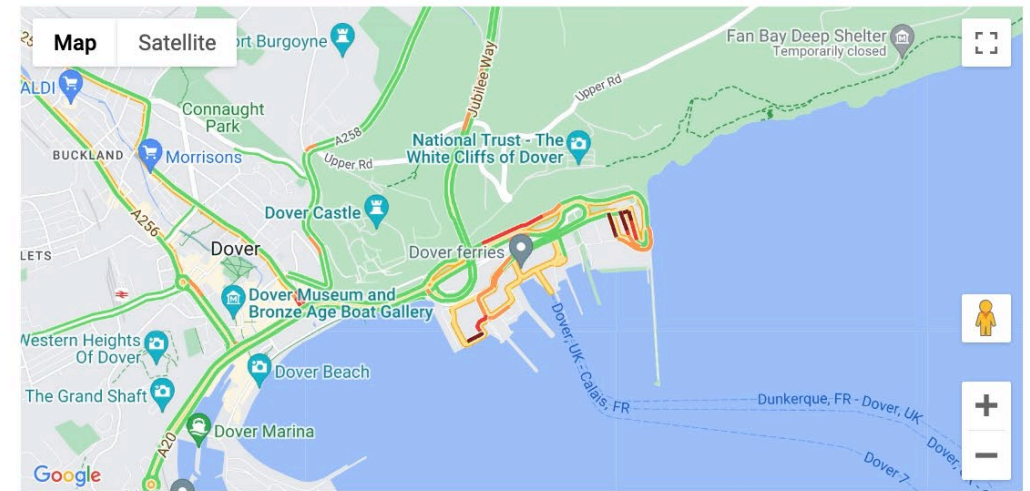


**7°C**  
Patched rain possible

22ND  
January



**8°C**  
Patched rain possible





Operational since  
September 2023

>93% predictive  
accuracy

>25% reduction in  
congestion



# SMART grant bid

- £1.3 million bid to UKRI
- Announcement on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024
- 36-month project
- Digital Twin of Strategic Road Network (SRN) of Essex, supporting 3 use cases
- To research and develop game-changing innovations to address scalability, sustainability & accessibility issues surrounding AI-enabled Digital Twin deployment (particularly for Local Authorities)
- Consortium of Essex County Council, Entopy and the University of Essex, with support from public and private sector



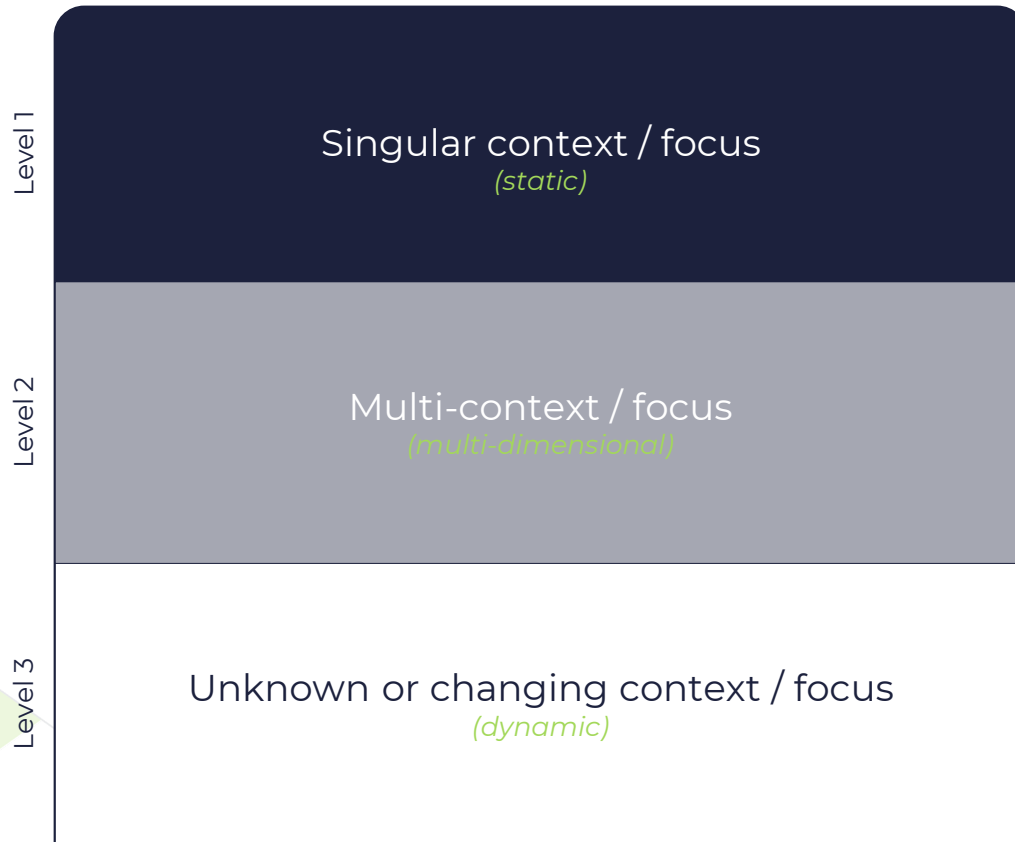
IADS | The Institute for  
Analytics and Data Science



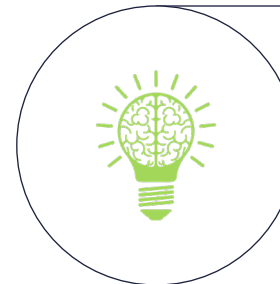


# Game-changing, two-fold innovation

The project seeks to address a major challenge of Digital Twin & AI in real-world contexts that is preventing adoption by local authorities but is also a fundamental challenge in Digital Twinning more generally.



- Mobilisation and maintenance of Digital Twins requires a lot of manual developer resource
- Data & models must be orchestrated to serve target workflows (RDF/ontology)
- Leading to:
  - higher costs
  - restrictions on the types of use cases that can be served (singular defined/static)
  - capacity/scale issues for vendors



## Context-oriented orchestration

*(automated selection, composition & orchestration)*

## Context-oriented optimisation

*(development of model/data federation techniques)*



# A Digital Twin of ECC SRN

**Monitor traffic and air quality in the Epping Forest road network,** focusing on key routes, anticipating increased traffic due to congestion or road incidents (e.g., M11 or M25 closure) during specific times.

**Strategic Road Network Digital Twin** across Essex County Council, developing understanding of regional modality and predicting future modality, predictive traffic flows across region.

- Existing data (NH, RNS)
- New CCTV
- New air pollution IoT
- New LoRaWAN

**Predicting traffic flows (by class)** to defined endpoints, initially, **London Gateway**, to help reduce localised congestion and impact of HGV traffic on surrounding roads/area.





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