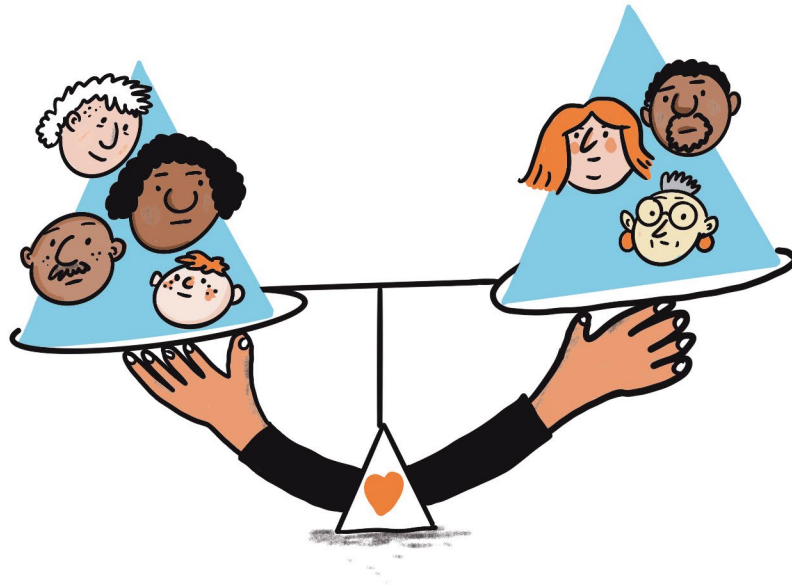


The image features a central yellow rectangular box with the text "DIGITAL WELFARE PRINCIPLES" in bold, black, sans-serif capital letters. This box is surrounded by numerous smaller, rectangular frames, each containing a different cartoon illustration of a person or group of people. The characters are diverse in age, gender, and appearance. Some are shown in what appears to be a video call interface, with some frames having a thin black border. The background is white, and the overall style is a simple, hand-drawn cartoon aesthetic. The characters are arranged in a circular pattern around the central box, with some frames partially overlapping others. A black mouse cursor arrow is visible near the bottom right of the central box, pointing towards it.

DIGITAL WELFARE PRINCIPLES



Reduce inequalities and make support accessible to all during times of need.



Draw on a range of evidence and involve multiple user and policy perspectives in design and delivery.



Minimise the amount of
personal data collected.



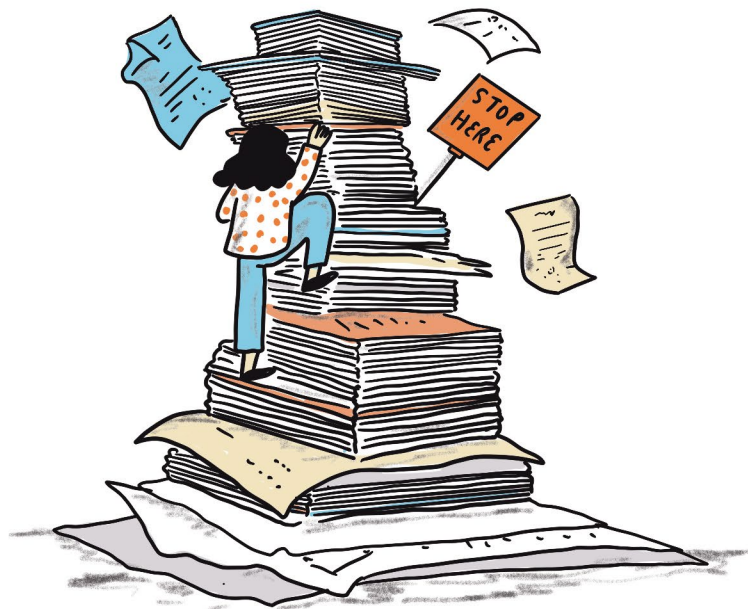
Communicate to the public about front-end data collection and back-end data sharing.



Embed digital services within
human support networks.



Give individuals a choice over being
subject to automated decision making.



Minimise claimant
administrative burden.

These digital welfare principles resulted from a report, 'Advancing Datafied Welfare Administration: Insights and Experiences on the Digital Welfare State in Scotland.'

This report collated findings from three separate research studies (2022-2025) and a stakeholder workshop held in March 2026. The report can be found here: <https://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/research/research-project/understanding-and-shaping-digital-welfare-state-scotland>

The stakeholder workshop took place at the University of Edinburgh and included participants from civil society/third sector organisations, Scottish Government, academics, and researchers.

The three studies are: Navigating Digital Welfare (<https://digitalwelfare.sps.ed.ac.uk/>), Automating Universal Credit (<https://automatinguc.co.uk/>), and Data Benefits (<https://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/research/research-project/data-benefits>)

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