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Agenda

BIG DATA BELFAST - 2026

15th October

bigdatabelfast.com

9:00am	Stage 01	Welcome Host: Roisin Finnegan, Senior Technology and Strategy Consulting, Finnegan Consulting
9:05am	Stage 01	Welcome - Analytics Engines Scott Fischaber, CEO, Analytics Engines
9:15am	Stage 01	Northern Ireland at an AI Crossroads: The World Right Now Dan West, Senior Advisor, Accenture
9:30am	Stage 01	Panel: Northern Ireland at an AI Crossroads Host: Kieran Miller, Accenture Panelists: Scott Fischaber, CEO, Analytics Engines Bella Thornley, Managing Director at Accenture, Centre of Advanced AI Lead Helen McCarthy, Chief Scientific Advisor, NI Executive Mark McCormack, CTO Aflac & MD Aflac NI
10:00am	Stage 01	Beyond the Model: How Amazon is Reimagining Building in the Age of AI Richie Jones, Enterprise Technologist, Amazon Web Services
10:20am	Stage 01	Building for Trust: The Data Engineering Behind Enterprise-Grade Financial Systems Joanna McDonald, Director of Engineering, DailyPay
10:40am	Stage 01	Leading with Sovereign AI Mark Hopkins, Managing Director, Dell Technologies Ireland & Northern Ireland Tim Grant, Co-Founder and CEO of TensorX Neil Bowden, AI Business Development Director, Dell Technologies
11:00am	Stage 01	Beyond the (AI) Hype: Choosing, Measuring and Deploying What Actually Works Host: Naomi Majury, Senior Manager, People Analytics, Allstate Laura McG, Product Engineer, Allstate Scott K, Data Scientist, Allstate Jonathan S, Data Scientist, Allstate
11:30	SECOND STAGE OPENS: Hosted By Patricia Spence, Brand & Communications Lead, Thrive	
11:30pm	Stage 01	Generating Impact & the Future Workforce: How AI Can Reinvent Organisations Host: Jessica O'Brien, Accenture NI AI & Data Lead Panelists: Caolan Ward, MD, Ipsos NI Paul Hill, MD, DailyPay NI & VP of Engineering Claire Cromie, Chief Innovation Officer, Strategic Investment Board Neil Hutcheson, CEO, Software NI
	Stage 02	From Data Assets to Better Lives: Northern Ireland's Five-Year Health & Care Data Opportunity Host: Lisa Whyte, Deputy Director, Data Institute, DHCNI Panelists: Dr. Patrick Stirling, GP and Digital Health and Transformation Consultant Magda Bucholtz, Health Intelligence Lead, Public Health Agency Michael Quinn, Professor of Practice, Healthcare Informatician and Consultant Physician Lorraine Acheson, Associate Consultant, HSC Leadership Center & Independent Strategy and Policy Advisor
12:00pm	Stage 01	Enterprise AI Transformation Architecture Danny Moore, CEO, Options Technology
12:45pm	LUNCH	
1:30pm	Stage 01	Lights, Lifeboats & Lighthouses – Keeping Critical Infrastructure Resilient Host: Michael Quigley, Principle Director, Client Leadership, Accenture Panelists: Rohan Kapoor, CIO, NIE Networks Chris Scully, Operations & Property Manager, Commissioners of Irish Lights Victoria Thorpe, Managing Director, Accenture
	Stage 02	AI and the Future of Humanity: Skills, Discovery, Security, Sovereignty Host: Stephen McCabe, Chief Executive, Momentum One Zero Panelists: Alaister McKinley, Principal Member of Technical Staff, AMD Dr Donnacha Kirk, Deputy Director, AICC Prof. Andy McDowell, Director, Centre for Education and Society; Professor of Computing and Digital Education; QUB Dr Eiman Kanjo, Nottingham Trent Uni
2:00pm	Stage 01	Transforming International Trade with AI Host: Diane Morrow, Senior Enterprise Account Manager, AWS Panelists: Colin McCullagh, CEO, Arclyte Aodhán Hickey, Director of Research and Innovation, Arclyte Nina Briggs, Lead Data Scientist, Analytics Engines
	Stage 02	Physical AI: Implementing AI at the Edge Prof Eiman Kanjo, Professor of Tiny ML, Nottingham Trent University and Imperial College London. Future of AI is tiny and physical
2:30pm	Stage 01	The Reality of AI Adoption: Data, Decisions and Lessons from Northern Ireland Businesses Host: Christopher McCausland, Principal Engineer, AICC Clarke Duddy, Managing Director, Whitenoise
	Stage 02	Government Adoption of AI Host: Dan West, Senior Advisor, Accenture Panelists: Prof. Roger Woods, QUB Chris Matthews, Deputy Secretary Resources and Corporate Management, Department of Health Annette Palmer, Director of the Office of Science and Technology, NI Executive Ben Carter, Founder, NI Strategic Change Network
3:00pm	Stage 01	AI and Security in Financial Services: From Hype to Reality Host: Nicola Maloney, VP Business Operations, Options Patrick Collins, VP Platform Security, Options Technology Ruairi Corrigan, VP Global Cyber Security Operations, Options Technology Mark Barr, Chief Engineer, First Derivative
3:30pm	Stage 01	Advancing AI: Building What's Next Gary McIntock, Director Customer eXperience, AMD
4:00pm		The AI Did It: Who's responsible When Autonomous Agents Break the Rules? Host: Micaela Diver, Partner, A&L Goodbody Simon Whittaker, Cyber Security Expert Sam Kinkaid, Former Regional Cyber Protect Officer, PSNI Brian Barrins, Security Senior Manager, Accenture
4:40pm	Stage 01	Closing Remarks

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