



The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.

# Legal Tech & Access to Justice in Clinical Legal Education Settings

Louise Glover  
University of Sheffield





# My role

- Director of Civic Engagement
  - Co-ordinate our pro bono offering both our 4 internal schemes and 7 projects with external partners
- Supervising solicitor for CommLaw clinic
- Academic Employability Lead



# Objectives

- What we've done so far
- What we've not done
- Review and some thoughts on the future



# What we've done

- Collaboration with TUoS Comp Sci graduate students to create case management system
- Collaboration with TUoS Enterprise
- Automated contract project
- Collaboration with Sheffield Legal Hackers
  - Legal Tech North conference and hackathon
  - CommLaw advise start ups at digital hub
- Legal Tech Certificate in our Employability and Skills programme



# What we haven't done...

We've started the process but...

- Tech is not embedded in our curriculum
- Some great collaboration – with our enterprise team, external partners and law firms - but not yet multi-disciplinary enough *within* the University
- No magic bullet for the clinics!



# Review

## What are our main assets?

- Our students
- University-backing
- Freedom to innovate
- Unlimited potential for work
- Good will

## What are our weaknesses?

- Need for the right tech partners
- Supervisory scope
- Restricted term timescales
- Risk of student overload
- Funding

# Some thoughts on the future

## Opportunities

- Tech platform for student resource?
- More use of social media and automated platforms to find and manage clients
- Collaboration, collaboration, collaboration

## Threats

- Funding
- HE regulation
- Strength of demand



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**Miscarriages  
of Justice**  
Review Centre

University of Sheffield



**FreeLaw**  
Legal Advice Clinic



The University of Sheffield  
**CommLaw**  
Free Commercial  
Legal Advice