Flexibility is better than Prophecy (for Super Strategic Sites) **James Scott Joint Planning Law Conference** 19-21 September 2025 Appendix 1 15 years of technological change and its impact on the built environment As described by ChatGPT

15 years of technological change and its impact on the built environment.

As described by ChatGPT!

Year	Change	Impact
2010– 2012	Rise of smartphones & 4G rollout	Enabled mobile work, on-demand services, digital navigation
2013	Growth of cloud computing (AWS, Azure UK data centres)	Facilitated remote collaboration, SaaS growth
2015	Smart home tech adoption (Nest, Hive, Alexa)	Changed home energy use, security, and automation
2016	Expansion of contactless payments	Shift away from cash; enabled seamless more efficient travel
2017	Electric vehicles (EVs) gain ground (Nissan Leaf, Tesla Model S growth in UK)	Shift in transport energy sources; rise of EV infrastructure for new communities
2018	GDPR implementation	Major changes in data management and tech ethics
2019	5G pilot deployments	Laid foundations for IoT, smart cities, AR/VR applications
2020	COVID-19 pandemic: massive remote work adoption and boost to online sales	Tech pivot to Zoom, Teams, VPNs; digital transformation accelerated and online sales increase significantly.
2021	Growth in AI and automation tools	Affected sectors like legal, finance, logistics and retail with changes accelerating
2022	Drones & autonomous delivery pilots	Changing logistics & last-mile delivery in urban areas
2023	Al generative models (e.g., ChatGPT) mainstreamed	Redefining digital labour, content production, customer support
2024	Full fibre broadband (Project Gigabit) expanding	Supports remote/hybrid work & digital inclusion
2025	Autonomous vehicle pilots being undertaken.	Changing on demand transport and public transport efficiency.