'Professionalism, Policy and Practice: Exploring the Relationship between Theory and Practice in Housing Studies' Housing Studies Association Conference 2018, 11th-13th April, Sheffield

## Mapping the ontology of housing politics

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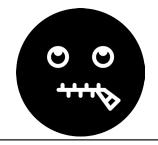






# Conflicting definition(s) of social housing





## **Explicit**

#### Governance model

Organisational structures, legal entities and supporting management structure, including board membership.

#### Regulatory controls

Statutory /mandated and associated advisory operational standards

#### Funding

Scope and extent of governmental funding, including application of private funding (private finance initiative), provision of tenant empowerment grants.

#### **Tacit**

# Housing ownership / tenure Perceptions of ownership and degree of mixed tenure, including basis of stock transfer, and

ing basis of stock transfer, and arms-length management.

#### Dependency

Relationship with the wider social welfare system, including security of tenancy, need for management /maintenance

#### support

#### Technical language

Use of overtly technical language with organisational specific definitions / meanings

## Benefits of producing an ontology of social housing

## Clarity around a common definition

Requires shared ownership with 'domain experts' and 'open source' platform to support collaboration. SQL language for filtering, aggregation and extraction for relationship database management with Protégé for development of shared ontology and structuring into OWL.

# **Associated semantic meaning**



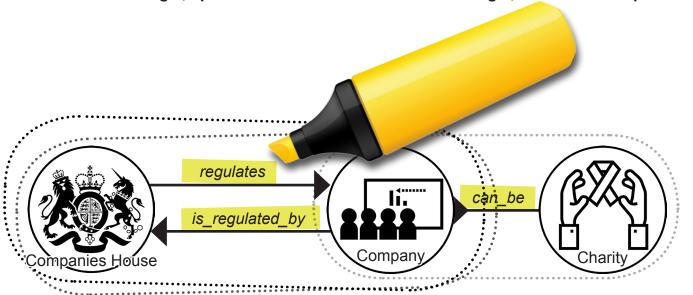
## Wider applications for linking 'relational' database(s) & data mining

Accessing 'Big data' sets with a mix of descriptive and predictive characteristics. Descriptive ... descriptive parameters and associated metadata. Predictive ... variable 'predictor'. Supervised predictions based on 'true' historical data and patterns to allow for machine learning and regression analysis techniques. Unsupervised lacks historical data and requires interpretation in the form of predictive algorithms. Thus ... analysis requires a methodology suited to the form of data collected and / or mined.

## **Basis of ontology**

## Clarity around a common definition

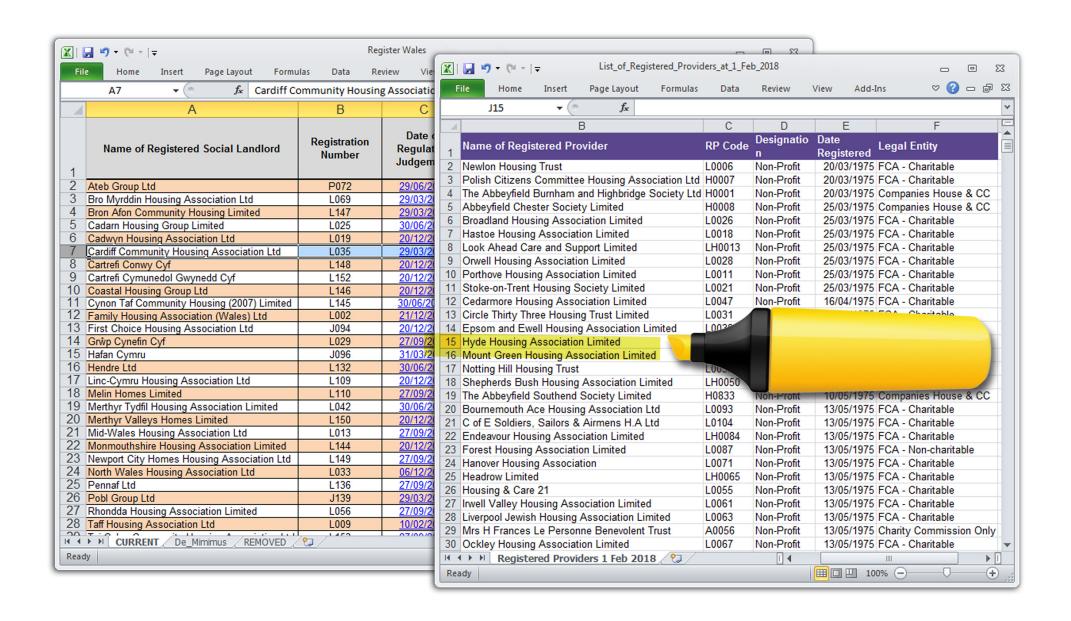
General characteristics or attributes 'things', specific characteristics 'sub-set of things', and relationships between them.



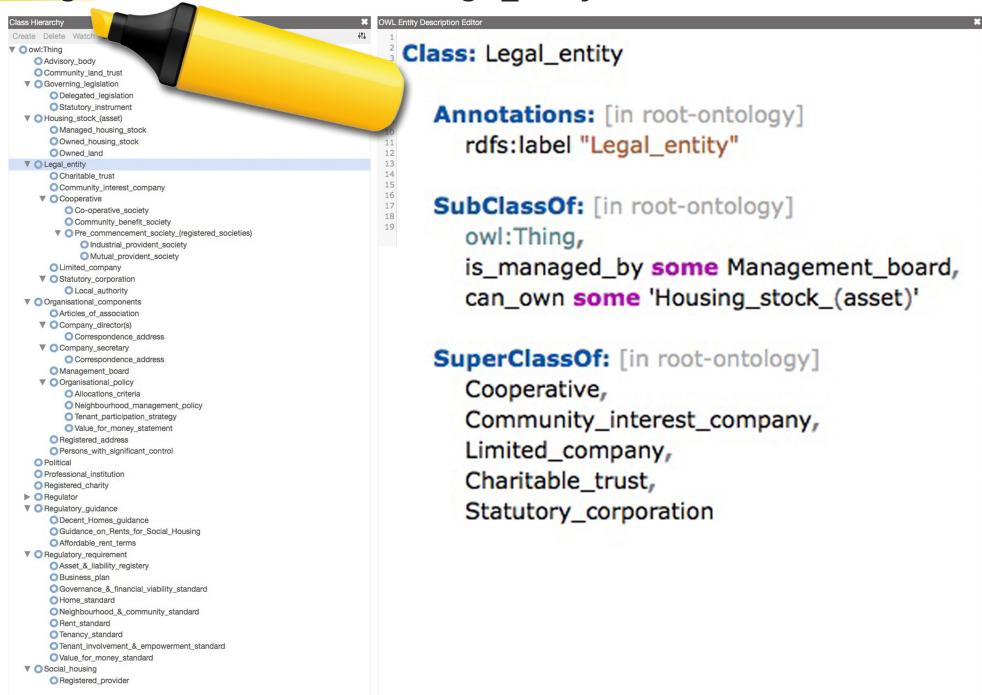
We have initially defined the general (class) and specific (sub-class) of social housing and then described the relationship between the characteristics and associated attributes as a triple where the triplet is a clear binary relationship that includes a 'subject' (the object described by the triplet), a 'predicate' (defines the data within the object being given a value), and an 'object' (the value). Within the coding classification, this approach allows for the development of an RDF file, and the relational structure of the information leads to appropriate and functional data mining algorithms based on the structure of the ontology within standardised RDF (resource description language) and OWL (web ontology language).

Knowledge of 'social housing' domain - Practitioner / policy guidance **A audit** commissid NATIONAL HOUSING FEDERATION Social hearts, Welfare reform impact assessment: business heads: social hearted, Final report - January 2015 new thinking on VFM commercially for housing associations minded housing associations Housing Association in England and the Future of Voluntary Organisatio By Denise Chevin 44,, **Steve Smedley** from Will Perry and **Andrew Purkis** www.housing.org.uk HouseMark HOUSING The Baring Foundation **≝SMITH** JOSEPH ROWNTREE

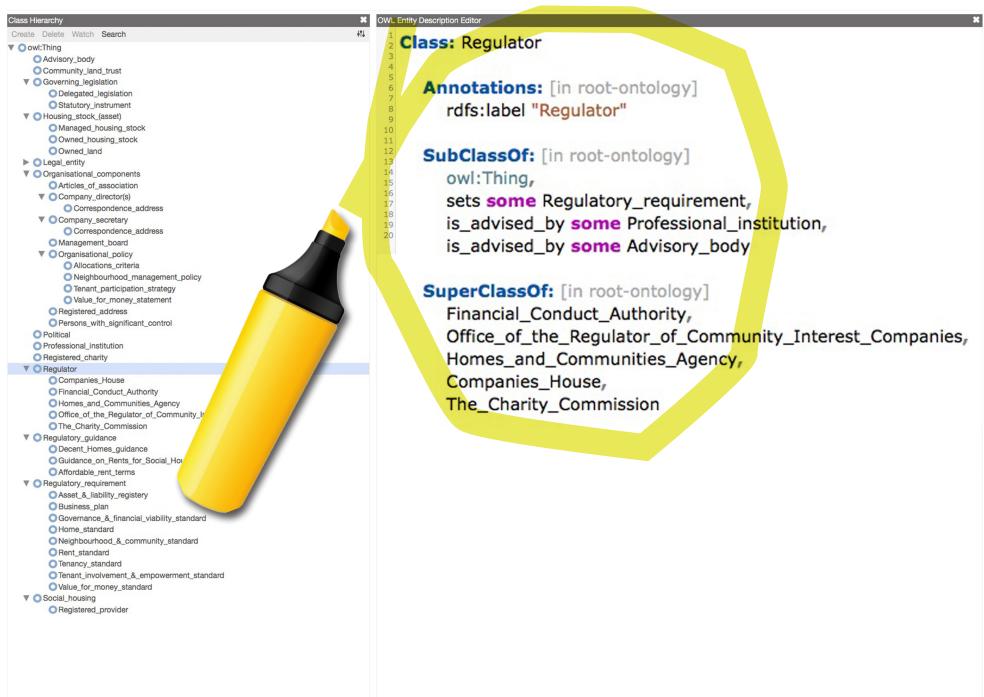
## Knowledge of 'social housing' domain - Registered providers list(s)



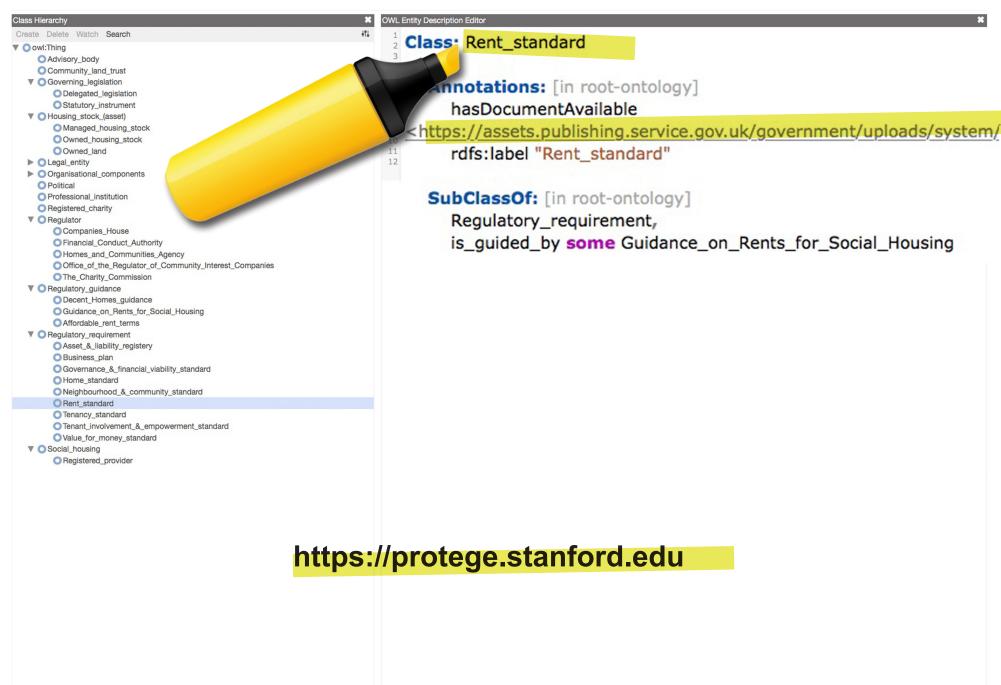
Protégé - OWL classification of Legal\_entity

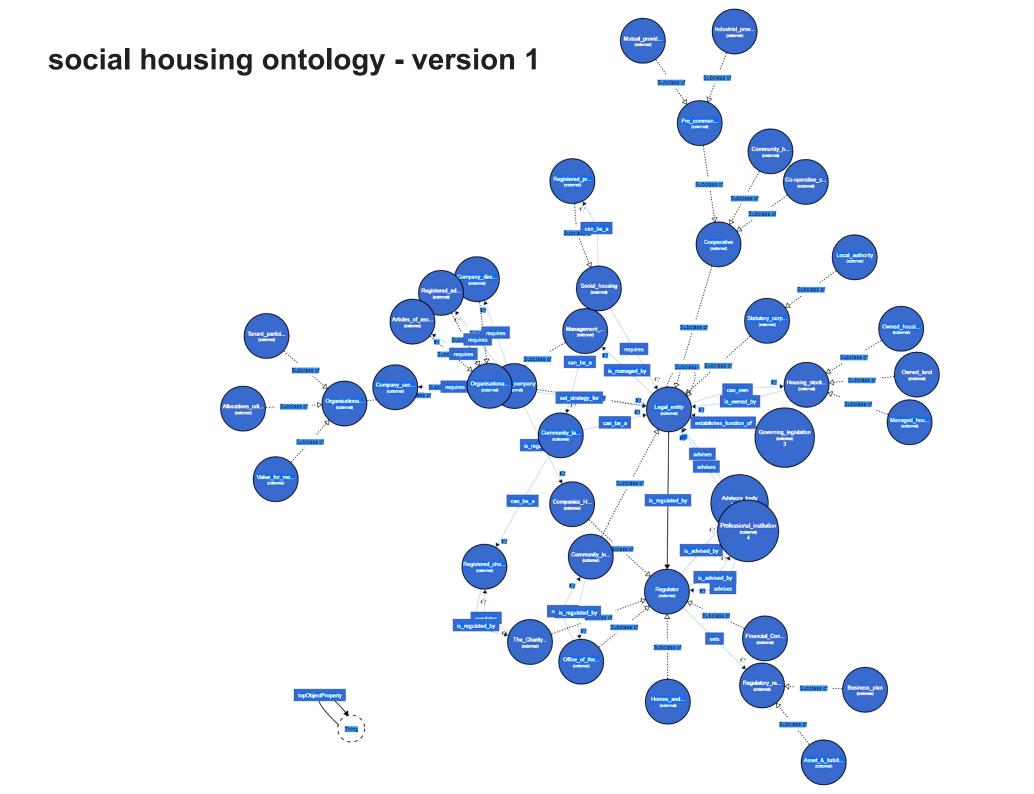


# Protégé - OWL classification of Regulator

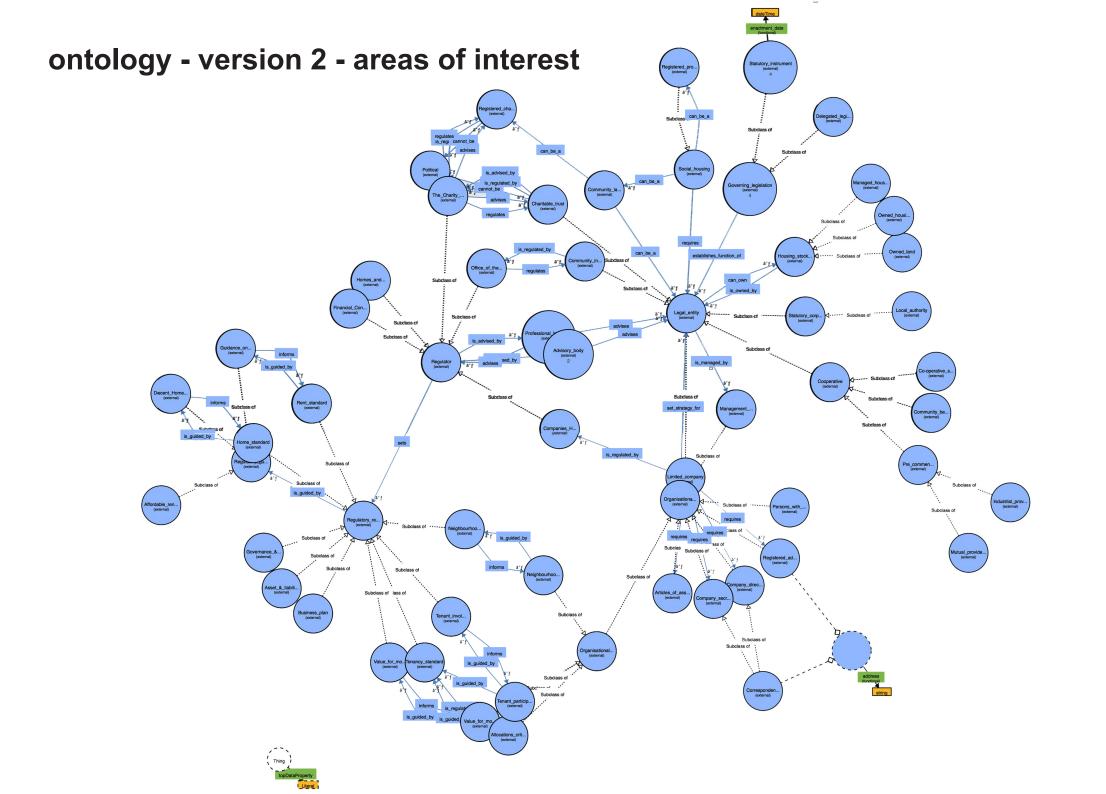


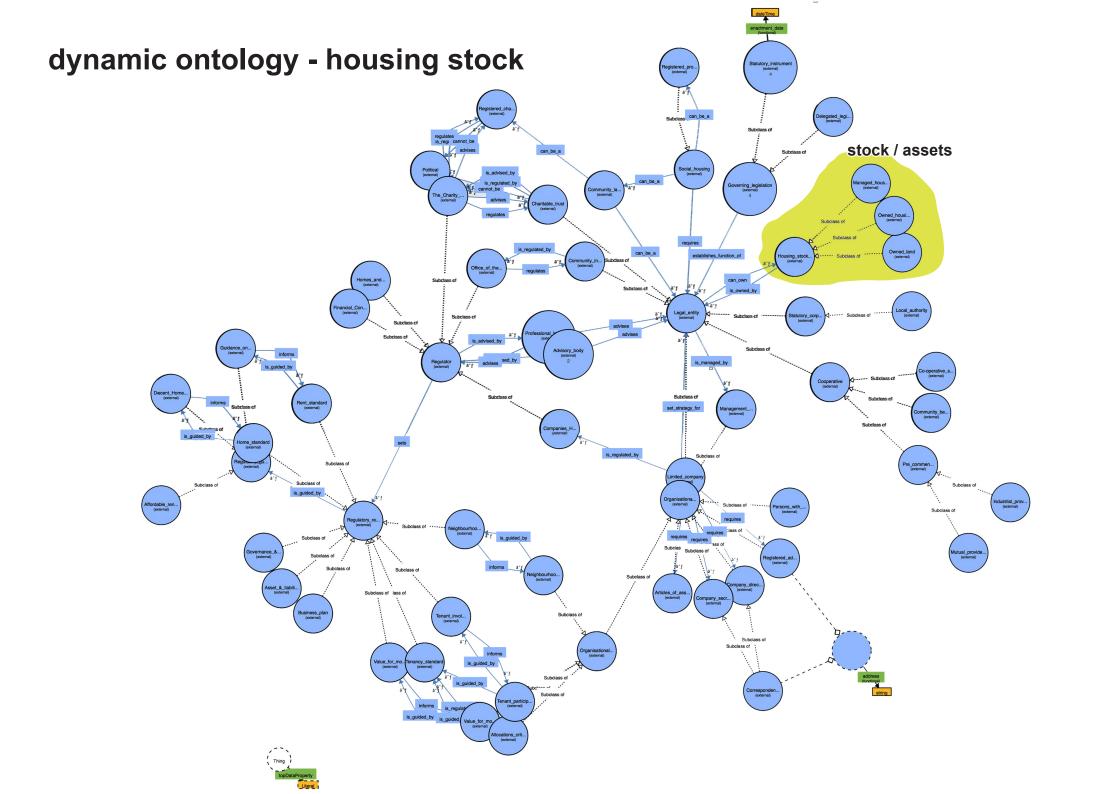
# Protégé - OWL classification of Rent\_standard

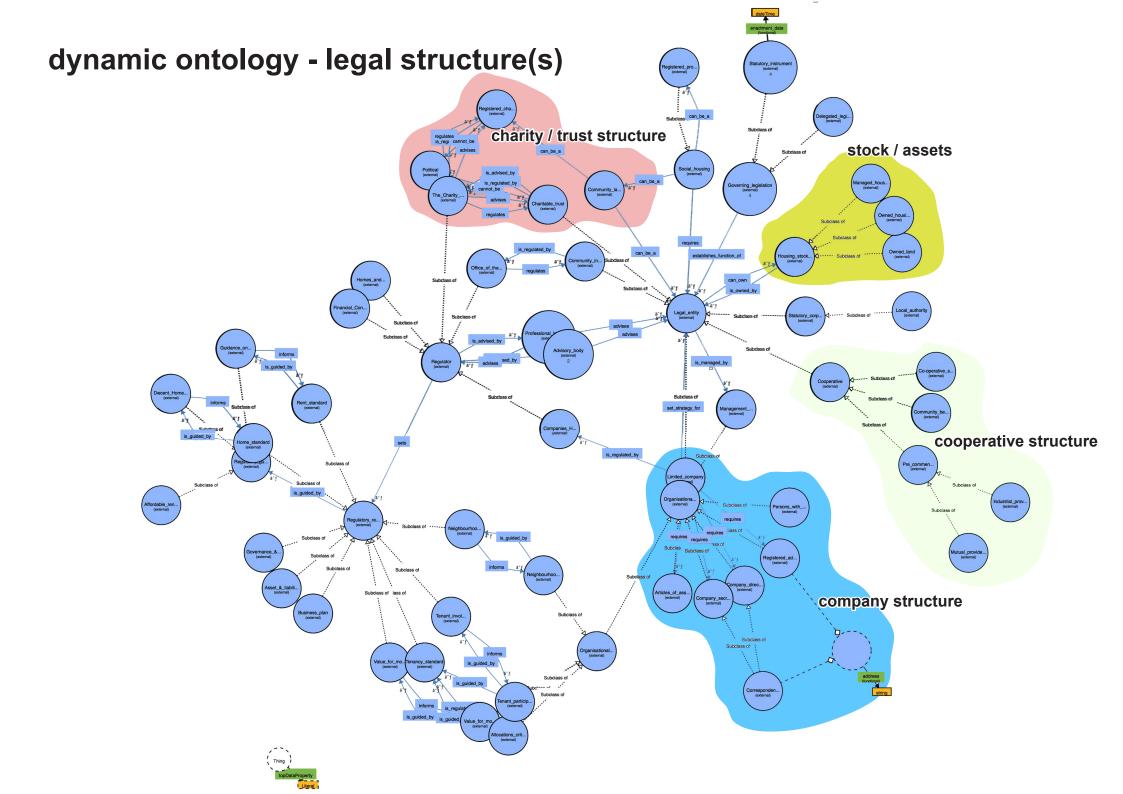


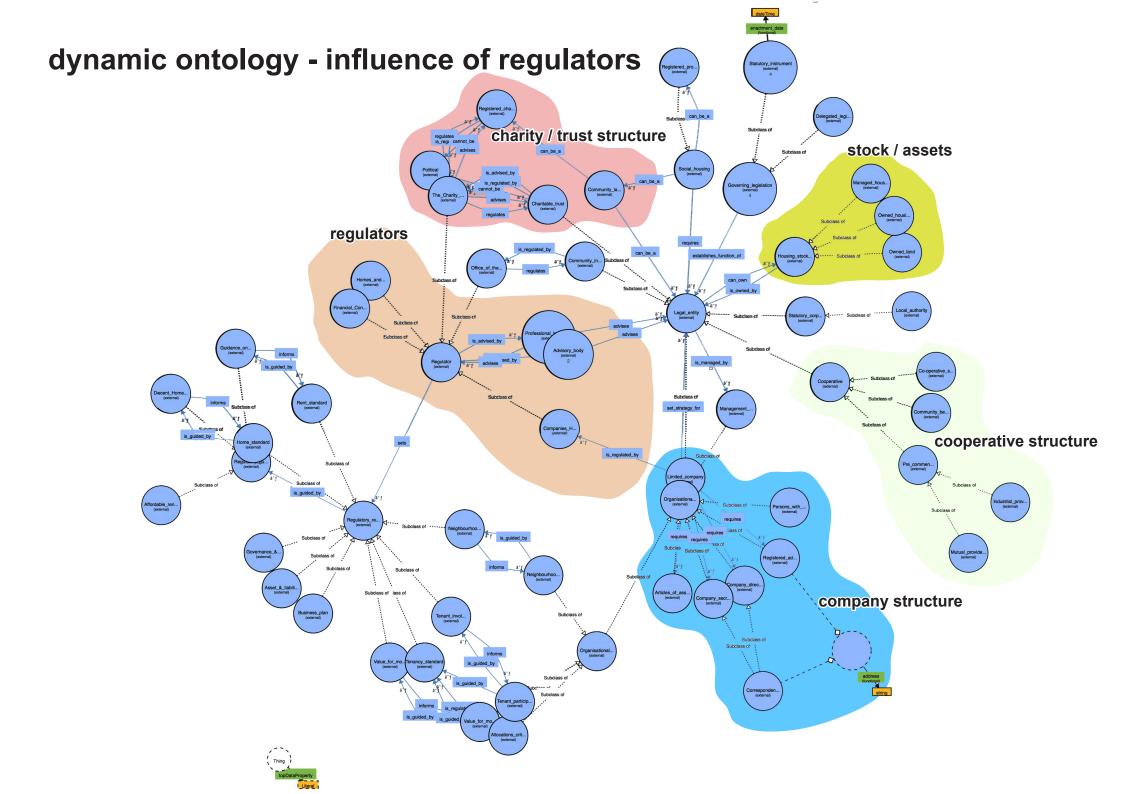


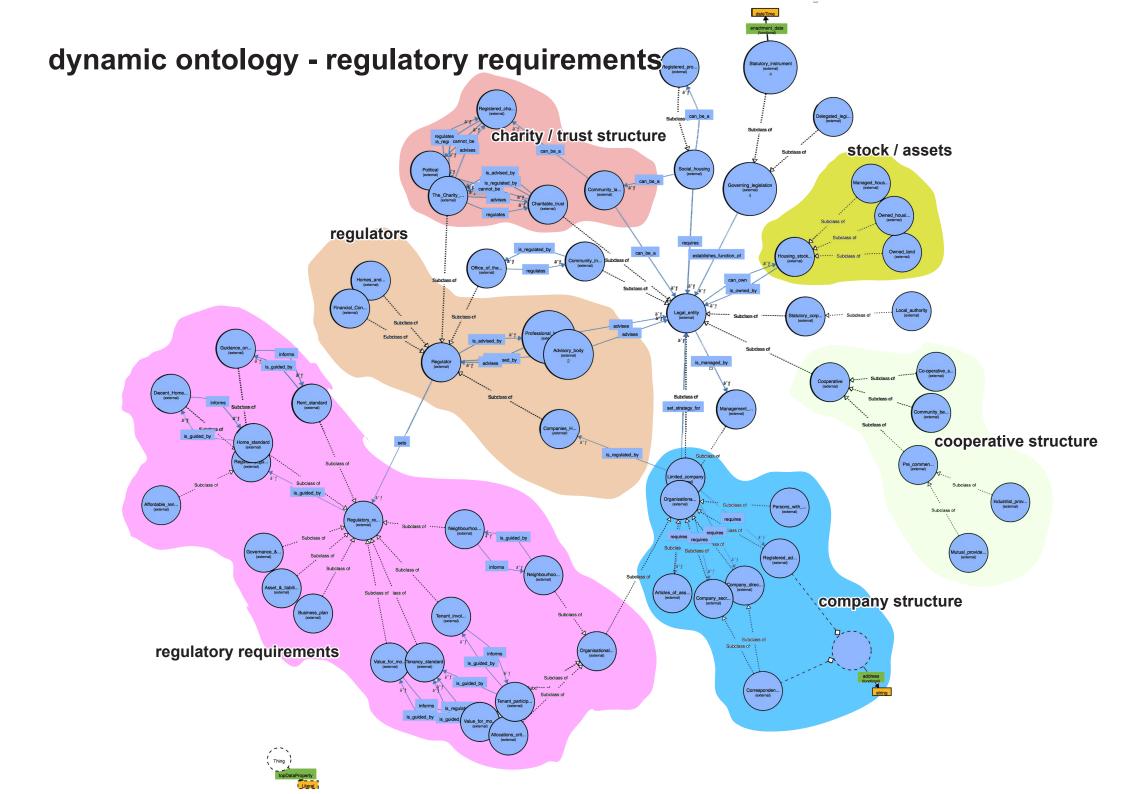
dynamic ontology - version 2











# Remains work in progress ... Thank you

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