

**Note of the CTO Council Meeting
10:00 – 15:30, 17 September 2008
Room 1.44 Admiralty Arch**

Attendees

Andrew Stott
Sarah Norton
Andrew Bull
Philip Buckle
Tunde Coker
Paul Davidson
Karen Delafield
Nigel Greenaway
Dominic Hartley
Colin Hurd
Dean James
Eamonn McDonough
Stephen Osborne
Mike Payne
Keith Robertson
John Wailing

Contributors

Dan Bailey -IBM
Tim Bett - OGC
Maurette Cobb - OGC
Pete Desmond - DWP
Tony Ellis – Brent LA
Nick Illsley - DfT
Andrea Di Maio - Gartner
Kevin McLean – Cab Office
Nicky Stewart - OCG
Pete Wilson - HMRC
Dane Wright – Brent LA

Agenda

- 1 Welcome and introductions - Andrew Stott
- 2 Open Source Software
Workshop session - Andrea Di Maio, Gartner / Kevin McLean CO
- 3
- 4 Report back from ARB - Tunde Coker
- 5 Transport Direct – update - Nick Illsley Transport Direct / Peter Wilson
- 6 Directgov/Businesslink Alignment – update - Peter Wilson
Lunch
- 7 Brent Council Online Catalogue – eRegister - Dane Wright (Brent) / Paul Davidson
- 8 Collaboration Tools - Pete Desmond
- 9 Champion Exemplar Continuum - Dan Bailey
- 10
- 11 Software Performance Management Pilot update - Maurette Cobb OGC
- 12 AOB
 - Communication Lead
 - Service Management Domain Lead All
- 13 Wrap up and close - Andrew Stott

1. Welcome and Introductions

Andrew Stott welcomed everyone to the meeting including new members Stephen Osbourne and Steve Foreman. .

2. Open Source Software – Workshop with Andrea Di Maio (Gartner)

(also see presentation entitled OSS for UK CTO Council)

2.1 Kevin McLean introduced Andrea Di Maio from Gartner. Andrea gave a presentation on the various types of Open Source software and highlighted issues for Government to consider. Key points included the fact that OSS has moved on significantly since 2004 – we now have business class OSS along side community class. Also, mentioned the fact that OSS is common at the lower levels of the stack but that there is growing interest higher up in the business application space. He

suggested we provide guidance to support people in making the right choice of software and that we need to assess what we already have.

2.2 It was suggested that if we set up a Government class OS, vendors may want to be involved with this. ADM noted that vendors do collaborate with other OS communities and as part of that collaboration, agree to anything that is developed being OS. Also, using OS, the time required to procure the software is reduced. OS licences can be purchased at below the cost threshold for competitive tender and therefore the time taken to purchase is cut.

2.3 Prisons and probation service had found OS in some of the vendor supplied appliances they had purchased – solutions wholly black box but based on Linux. Support is a grey area as it is being supported by the vendor in some cases, and passed to a third party in others. ADM noted that there is a need to greater transparency about where OS is included in vendor sold products. We would also need to consider what we would do with the information once the vendor supplied it.

3.

4 ARB

4.1 Tunde Coker provided feedback from the Architecture Review Board meeting. At the July meeting the key issue centred around the Champion/exemplar work, developing a continuum between exemplar/s and Champions – the Champion/Challenger process and how we embed this in our work. The issue of collaboration – what do we mean by collaboration and how does it fit into the XGEA- was also discussed. The ARB wanted a CTO/C view on what we could take to the CIO/C. The Information Domain and how it fitted with the other stakeholder groups was also discussed at the July meeting.

4.2 Andrew Stott left the meeting. Sarah Norton took over the Chair.

4.3 Discussion continued around making use of the ARB and Domains to support reuse, looking across departments and linking domains work to business needs.

4.4 ACTION POINT: Andrew Stott to go to the Delivery Council and ask for direction – making the necessary links into the business from the CTO Council.

4.5 ACTION POINT: to pull together and proactively provide induction material for new CTO Council members.

5. Transport Direct potential Champion – presented by Nick Illsley

5.1 Nick Illsley provided the background to Transport Direct – what DfT have done and where they would like to take the system.

5.2 The group considered what Transport Direct could be a Champion of, what would the scope be? The group agreed more scoping needed to be done, and that component parts of Transport Direct could become exemplars, lessons learned and could be reused.

5.3 ACTION POINT – scope what Transport Direct could be a Champion of (Pete Wilson and Nick Illsley)

6. Directgov and BusinessLink Technical Strategy – presented by Pete Wilson

7. eGovernment Register – presentation by Dane Wright, Brent Council
(see presentation “eGovernment Registry” in the eRoom)

7.1 Dane Wright gave a presentation on the local authority eGovernment Register and asked if this was something which could be extended to central government? Paul Davidson asked the CTOs whether there was any interest in engaging with the work done by Brent – and its applicability from a central government perspective.

7.2 ACTION POINT: Paul Davidson to consider and engage with ARB on whether there is any appetite to move (host) and use in central Government.

8. Collaboration as part of Strategy Technology Workstream- presented by Pete Desmond – see slides

8.1 Pete Desmond informed the group that a questionnaire on collaboration had been sent to CTO and KC members, and requested people complete and return the questionnaire. There was discussion about the questionnaire, which asked about collaboration within individual organisations, and whether there would be a similar study asking about collaboration beyond organisations. Pete Desmond noted that this initial stage was to look at where we are. A later stage would be to look at how we want to collaborate.

8.2 It was noted that the driver to find out about collaborative working came from the CO Perm Secs discussion about how many SharePointS were being used, for what purpose and the need to coordinate.

8.3 ACTION POINT: All CTO and KC to respond to Pete Desmond's Collaboration questionnaire.

9. Champion to Exemplar Alignment & Level 2 domain models – presented by Dan Bailey

9.1 Dan Bailey introduced the background to the exemplar/Champion – Champion/Challenger work and introduced the Strategic Reuse Draft Paper. (Covers reuse process at the user level)

9.2 It was noted that it was a great idea but there were 3 problems: the projects were very large projects and we were not sure how much leverage we would have with them; not all were at the formative stage and it would be too late for us to intervene; and as these are large projects, they should be on the agenda of the CTO already and exemplars/Champions should already be being considered. Where was our communication element in the paper?

9.3 ACTION POINT: Carry on defining the model, place a couple of exemplars and test them out so they work against the model, and talk to John Wailing and Phil Buckle and work with the collaboration team to see if there is anything we can do to make this self service.

10.5 Andrew Stott renamed the SSM as the Procurement Council.

11. Software Performance Management Pilot update - Maurette Cobb- OGC

11.1 Maurette Cobb provided an update on the Software Performance Management Pilot and sought comments on the CAF Guidance. Maurette was also looking for a third department to join HMRC and DWP in committing to the CAF Pilot.

11.2 ACTION POINT: All to let Maurette Cobb have comments on the CAF Guidance and slides (available in the eRoom).

11.3 ACTION POINT: All to let Maurette Cobb know if their department is a SAP customer.

12. AOB

12.1 Communications Lead. At the last meeting Andrew Stott asked for a volunteer to lead on comms issues for the group. No one volunteered. Andrew approached the group again, and noted that he was not looking for a CTO, but someone from within their departments, otherwise Andrew would need to nominate a CTO to find the comms person.

12.2 Paul McAvoy had stepped down as the Service Management Domain Lead. Paul was trying to find another person to lead the domain from within the team.

12.3 ACTION POINT: Pete Desmond asked if we could formalise papers for the CTO Council and keep track of the actions. Action for team.