

Interoperability News

John Suffolk has been appointed as the new CIO (Chief Information Officer) at the e-Government Unit. John arrives at eGU in June after a period as CIO at CJIT (Criminal Justice Information Technology). As Government CIO he will lead the CIO Council and will also drive forward the implementation of the Transformational Government strategy

Implementing the strategy requires a strong emphasis on openness and sharing, both in terms of data and services. It also gives the CTO (Chief Technical Officer) Council a much wider remit than was set by the principle of interoperability alone. The CTO Council itself benefits from a wide range of representatives spanning central and local government and the devolved administrations. It reports to the CIO Council.

One immediate activity arising from this extended remit is the development and publication of a cross-government Enterprise Architecture Framework. This will identify common business functions, support sharing and the reuse of services and components, improve agility, increase efficiency and reduce cost. It will be the main focus of the CTO Council's work over the coming months.

Standards in general, and those in the e-GIF in particular, will be essential if the Framework is to deliver the desired interoperability. Consequently, e-GIF will evolve to meet the needs of the Framework and the Transformational Government agenda, as determined by the CTO Council. The GovTalk consultation process will continue to play a key role in supporting this work.

Technical Policy Team

19 May 2006