

Sent: 30 January 2006 13:27  
To: IT Strategy Project Team  
Subject: Brief comment on strategy on transforming government through technology

I was unimpressed to see the entry on identity management hidden away at:  
[http://www.cio.gov.uk/transformational\\_government/strategy/contents/strategy\\_3.asp](http://www.cio.gov.uk/transformational_government/strategy/contents/strategy_3.asp)

I was particularly bemused by the phrase "trusted by customers and stakeholders."

I assume "customer" means UK citizen?

I, and very many others, see no need for ID cards and do not trust them (if implemented) to be fraud proof in any meaningful sense and so by definition you will be unable to deliver a product that is trusted by "consumers".

It is ironic that as I write this I have just discussed with a colleague (I work in IT) the news that Dutch biometric passports have just been "cracked" (<http://www.riscure.com/news/passport.html> ) I write this as someone who has worked in IT for around 15 years, every proposal on ID cards I have read so far has been ludicrous, the only beneficiaries will be whichever private company rips off the taxpayer for yet another overpriced but inadequately delivered IT project. Supposed "targets" of ID card legislation, such as serious organised crime and terrorism will not be adversely affected.

As for govt IT projects in general, until IT projects stop being given to the usual suspects who continually amaze by plunging new depths in project design, management and implementation incompetence, any government IT strategy will be nothing but a hollow joke.

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Regards

Dave