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c.c. Andrew Stott;
John Blundell

DATE 16 FEBRUARY 2005

Dear Sir/Madam.

Re Transformational Government Strategy

I write to offer the following response to the Transformational Government Strategy paper as requested.

ODPM is supportive of the aims and objectives of the strategy, we see it as a natural evolution from initiatives such as the Local eGovernment and Efficiency programmes.

We are encouraged to see that a discussion document has been commissioned by the Local Government Chief Information Officers Council and Service Transformation Board representatives to specifically address the relevance of the strategy to the local government community.

We look forward to seeing the results of their endeavours as at the moment we have specific concerns that whilst the strategy is directed at both local and central government the current document does little to directly address the needs of local government or to acknowledge many of the advances that have taken place, both within individual Local Authorities and in collaboration, which support the concepts of citizen facing services and shared services.

There are also areas of ODPM activity such as the Efficiency Agenda and Local Area Agreements which will have a bearing on the implementation of the strategy and we need to ensure a joined-up approach to our ongoing initiatives.

I'd be grateful if you could confirm the arrangements and timings of your reporting of progress to PSX(E) during 2006, and indicate the contribution and level of detail required of ODPM to fulfil the committee's monitoring requirement.

Yours sincerely,



Ms. Sue Reid
Head of Local Government Modernisation and Efficiency.