

THE STORY OF OUR YEAR

Timeline of key events and achievements

April 2007 – March 2008



APRIL

- Public Sector Reform Conference run by Cabinet Office and the National School of Government: focus on future public service delivery
- Internal newsletter *Inside* wins Communicators in Business award



- Cabinet Office Black and Asian Network event celebrates the diversity of India
- Signing of 'Skills pledge' with 15 other government departments to help employers deliver 2010 skills level targets from Leitch Report



MAY

- Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary General, visits Cabinet Office after addressing both Houses of Parliament to mark the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade



- Cabinet Office holds sustainable development event with Defra, Carbon Trust and the Energy Saving Trust
- First full meeting of Civil Service HR Leaders Council to develop HR professionalism across government

JUNE

- Cabinet Office welcomes new Prime Minister, new departmental Ministers and Board members
- Civil Service Capability Group was put in place to build the capacity and capability of the Civil Service to deliver the Government's objectives.
- Publication of Cabinet Office People Strategy
- Cabinet Office Ministers support Volunteers' Week by helping out at three different community projects in London



- Office of the Third Sector announces £117 million funding programme for v to transform youth volunteering in England
- Cabinet Office Briefing Room (COBR) activated to deal with terrorist threats in London and Glasgow
- Publication of Capability Reviews for three government departments

JULY



- Cabinet Office Staff Conference: Prime Minister delivers keynote speech and first ever Cabinet Office Awards for staff held
- Cabinet Office leads first ever public consultation on the draft legislative programme
- Prime Minister asks Gus O'Donnell to lead a review of the UK's border security arrangements
- Publication of *The future role of the third sector in social and economic regeneration*, a joint Cabinet Office/HM Treasury report



AUGUST



- Cabinet Office introduces staff video sharing site 'CabCam' to improve internal communication
- Government Gateway launches Safety in Numbers campaign



SEPTEMBER

- Pitt Review interim report on reducing the impact of future flooding published



- Office of the Third Sector launches £30 million programme – to refurbish and transfer underused local authority assets to local organisations

OCTOBER

- Joint meeting of Cabinet Office Board and ministers
- Launch of new Cabinet Office diversity plan and framework at first ever Cabinet Office People Week
- Launch of Senior Civil Servants' (SCS) induction programme – SCS 'Base-camp' – with National School for Government
- Cross-government Crime and Communities review team set up in Cabinet Office to engage local communities in the fight against crime
- European and Global Issues Secretariat produced the publication: *Global Europe; Meeting the Economic and Security Challenges*

NOVEMBER

- Sir Suma Chakrabarti's review of the role and purpose of the Cabinet Office published



- Cabinet Office pilots new People Survey based on employee engagement principles, in advance of roll out across government
- Social enterprise day: one year on – Office of the Third Sector publishes update on progress against action plan
- Civil Service Awards: Cabinet Office wins procurement award for ICT shared services project *Flex*
- *Security in a global hub* report on new UK border arrangements published by Cabinet Office



DECEMBER

- 1977 Cabinet Office and Prime Minister's Office records transferred to The National Archives under the 30 year rule
- Office of the Third Sector publishes update on progress against *Partnership in Public Services* action plan
- Capability Reviews' progress and next steps document published: all 17 Whitehall departments now reviewed
- Joint Board meeting between Cabinet Office and HM Treasury



JANUARY 2008

- Two new Ministers and three new Board members join the Cabinet Office
- Launch of *Think Family*, the second half of the *Families at Risk* review, by Cabinet Office Social Exclusion Task Force
- Cabinet Office launches Single Equality Scheme to staff for consultation
- Office of the Third Sector unveils Grassroots Grants, a £130 million programme to boost local community organisations
- Launch of new Honours campaign for nominations from the general public of local heroes in their area



Above: Ylana First, MBE

FEBRUARY



- Launch of Cabinet Office discussion paper *Realising Britain's Potential: Future Strategic Challenges for Britain*
- Phil Hope MP announces £10 million Risk Capital fund for social enterprises

MARCH

- Cabinet Office holds International Women's Day event with HM Treasury
- First UK national security strategy published by Cabinet Office
- Cabinet Office organises *Tower 08* event on public service transformation with trade association Intellect



Above: Tom Watson MP, Parliamentary Secretary and Minister for Transformational Government

- Phil Hope announces the Government's response to the Commission on the Future of Volunteering report, *Manifesto for Change*
- Civil Service Capability Group publishes new performance management arrangements on leadership for Civil Service