

Tuesday, 04 April 2006

ARE YOU PREPARED TO TALK>>>?

The outline vision for an innovative, online platform designed to encourage the local government family to share their knowledge and experience critical to the ongoing modernisation agenda, is being unveiled at local e-gov EXPO 2006.

Known as TALK>>> (Transferring Across Local Knowledge); this will go beyond key products, manuals and reports, to investigate and publicise local knowledge and know-how to help practitioners accelerate their change programmes.

The TALK>>> mission is to tap into the rich pool of tacit knowledge already gained by local practitioners and make it readily available to others; and relate technical, management and cultural challenges to modernisation in a way that can easily be accessed and used by change agents.

To gather some of the most valuable insights from local government practitioners, a range of dissemination techniques - interviews, emails, observation, blogs, biographies, wiki's and video - will be used.

The TALK>>> programme will be focused on achieving the following objectives:-

- Make tacit knowledge available to those who need it in the frontline of the local government's major change programmes;
- Help the local government family to help itself, by identifying the patterns and strategies that are emerging right now in today's change programmes;
- Leave a legacy of knowledge sharing - and the expectation of knowledge sharing - so that local government is better able to meet future challenges;

TALK>>> is supported by the ODPM (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister) and led by Leeds City Council.

News Release

Tony Teehan, ODPM, said:

“Valuable knowledge and best practise all too often get stored in individuals heads or small areas of local authorities. They rarely get deposited across the local authority structure. Given the large number of local authorities that have participated in the Local e-Government Programme, a considerable resource of untapped insight and experience exists that, if captured, would be invaluable to other authorities.

“The creation of TALK>>> will exploit the unique character of local government to supply additional sources of knowledge in ways people can use.”

Maura Brooks, Chief Officer (ICT) for Leeds City Council, said:

“TALK>>> will be building and enhancing the good work of the local e-gov programme and related products, gathering the insight and experience of those early adopters who have been involved in change implementation and making it available to others that are at the beginning of their journey.”

ENDS

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