

National Projects new regional workshops and website to support local authority e-service implementation

A new series of regional 'experience sharing workshops' for local authorities was announced today by the Local e-Government National Projects Programme. The programme of events is designed to help local authorities deliver Priority Outcome targets and meet the 2005 electronic service delivery deadline.

The National Projects, supported by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), aim to help English local authorities deliver local e-government by 2005 - meeting Priority Outcome requirements and supporting the implementation of efficient and effective e-services.

The workshops announced today are part of the National Projects Communications Programme, which supplements the communications activities of the individual National Projects, and encourages knowledge sharing and best practice across English local authorities.

Starting in November, the workshops will focus on how each of the National Projects can help councils develop business cases, select suppliers and implement systems to help deliver service improvements. The sessions are aimed at senior officers involved in delivering local e-government, and will provide tailored, 'hands-on' working sessions.

Places at the workshops may be booked on the new National Projects Programme website, <http://www.localgovnp.org>, which is also launched today. The web site will be a central point of information, with detailed information on each National Project, plus events and news. The web site also lists all available products and carries a register of project suppliers, and is aimed at local authority officers, suppliers and the media.

Martin Scarfe, National Projects Communication Programme Chair said:

"These workshops mark an important step on the road to full implementation of local e-government. It is the first time that local authorities will have the opportunity to compare and share their expertise and best practice experience across all the Projects. The workshops will be a powerful tool in demonstrating the practical ways the individual projects can benefit council services – and they will show you exactly how to go about what can be challenging transformations."

Notes to editors:

- 1) For more information on the National Projects and the workshops, see <http://www.localgovnp.org>. Registration for all of the workshops can be arranged online at the website.
- 2) The workshops are taking place at seven venues across England during November. The full timetable is as follows:

Date	Region	Location
1 - 5 November	North West	Park Hall, Chorley
8 - 12 November	East & West Midlands	CBS Conference Centre, Coventry
15 - 19 November	South West	Thistle Hotel, Swindon
22 - 26 November	York & Humber	Moat House Hotel, Harrogate
22 - 26 November	East	Hilton Hotel, Norwich
29 November - 3 December	London & South East	Hilton Hotel, Kensington
29 November - 3 December	North East	Thistle Hotel, Newcastle

3) The 22 National Projects are

Customer Relationship Management (CRM)
Digital TV (DigiTV)
e-Benefits
e-Democracy
e-Fire
e-Pay
e-Procurement (NePP)
e-Trading Standards National
Environment and Community Online Residents' e-Services (ENCORE)
Framework for Information Sharing in a Multi-Agency (FAME)
Knowledge Management
Local Authority Websites (LAWS)
Local e-Government Standards Body (e-Standards)
Mobile Technology (Project Nomad)
Online Schools Admissions/Pan London School Admissions
Planning and Regulatory Services Online (PARSOL)
Reducing Youth Offending Generic National Solution (RYOGENS)
Smartcards
Take-Up
Valuebill (Council Tax/Business Rate Valuation)
Workflow
Working with Business