



ADVISORY PANEL
on Public Sector Information

NATIONAL INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Michael Jennings

APPSI Member

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The aim is to stimulate a debate about:

- **the need for / value of a National Information Infrastructure**
- **How organisations might equip themselves better to deliver this**
- **The role APPSI could play**

National Infrastructure Plan

(1)

- Published on 25 October 2010 (launched by the Prime Minister at CBI Conference)
- Sets out the Government's "*broad vision of the **infrastructure** required to **underpin the UK's growth.***"
- "*Need to **embrace the options** opened up by **new technology** – for example, in the rollout of **superfast broadband**, in offshore wind arrays and in high speed rail.*"

National Infrastructure Plan (2)

- *“The role of the Government is clear. It is to specify what infrastructure we need, identify the **key barriers** to achieving investment and **mobilise the resources, both public and private, to make it happen.**”*

National Infrastructure Plan (3)

- *“We will help make it happen through the smarter use of **public funding**, improving **private sector investment models**, encouraging **new sources of private capital**, addressing the **regulatory failures** that stand in the way of greater private sector investment in our country’s infrastructure.”*

National Infrastructure Plan

(4)

- *“Today the UK is one of the most expensive countries in which to build infrastructure...To address this issue we will improve the **UK planning system**”, bring down construction costs, improve the **quality of data** to inform **decision making**, and initiate programmes to look at **cross-sectoral dependencies resilience** and engineering innovation.”*

National Infrastructure Plan (5)

- *Infrastructure for the UK's growth*
- *Embrace the options from new technology – superfast broadband*
- *Key barriers; public funding; private sector investment; new sources of private capital; regulatory failures; UK planning system; quality of data; decision making; cross-sectoral dependencies; resilience.*
- *But essentially focussed on engineering*

National Infrastructure Plan (6)

Covers:

- Energy Infrastructure
- Transport Infrastructure
- Digital Communications
- Flood Management, Water and Waste
- Intellectual Capital
- *But not housing, shipping or aviation*

National Infrastructure Plan (7)

Digital Communications

- Wire and cable broadband
- Mobile broadband
- Help private sector to cover the whole of the country
- National broadband strategy to be published December 2010

National Infrastructure Plan (8)

Flood Management

- Commitment to make flood information more widely available

National Infrastructure Plan (9)

Intellectual Capital

- Support research
- Invest in next generation of researchers
- Encourage research to relate to business
- Technology Strategy Board and network of Technology and Innovation Centres

UK Infrastructure and Independency

- Meeting on 21 October 2010
- Chairman of APPSI argued that information – at least public sector information – was analogous to physical infrastructure:

“The content of information available flowing through the ‘pipes’ is an important consideration as well as the physical infrastructure that provides the pipes.”

UK Infrastructure and Independency

In my experience CBI look to
Government/public sector for the
development of :

- Skills and information
- Communications and transport
- Housing

(Less concern about health, and safety)

UK Infrastructure and Independency

The Government's Engineering and
Independency Expert group (EIEP)
scoping study on data needs

(but likely to be about data on
infrastructure, rather than on data
themselves).

The First Issue: National Information Infrastructure

Is there value in:

- the development of a national information infrastructure
- the development of the public task in relation to the collection as well as re-use of information
- the further development of standards (data, legal, technical, etc).

?

Information Management (1)

- I emailed APPSI colleagues on 25 October 2010
- Challenge of getting public sector information (re-)use in councils is that unlike other key resources – finance, property, IT, HR, and now procurement – information is not managed in a coherent and integrated way

Information Management (2)

- SOCITM (Society of IT Managers in local government) are aware of this, but don't feel IT people are necessarily the right people to take this on.
- We don't ask surveyors to run schools because they are in buildings, so why do we assume information is an IT issue because it runs on computers (and a lot of it doesn't come via screens).

Information Management (3)

Responses from APPSI colleagues:

- Whitehall has Knowledge Managers, and the National Archive runs a Knowledge Council
- Scotland has Digital Scotland strategy
- Mixed situation in private sector
- City University Cass Business School has just started a Masters in the Centre for Information Leadership
- Course Leader writing challenge paper on information markets and the opportunities for the public sector

Information Management

(4)

Information management is critical to:

- Public expectations
- Support to politicians, executives, managers, staff, shareholders, stakeholders, regulators
- Marketing and Communications and Engagement
- Corporate/strategic planning, investment and budgeting
- Customer services
- Service planning and delivery
- Procurement and supply chain management
- Performance and resource management
- Economic development
- Environmental management
- Emergency management
- Accountability
- Community cohesion and safety

The Second Issue: Information Management Capability

Is there value in:

- the further development of strategies, competences, a role, organisational recognition, or even a profession, in information management to exploit this key resource.

?

The Third Issue: **APPSI's Role**

- Are the first two issues the right ones, or are there others; *and*:
- What role could APPSI play

?