
The Bigger Picture: Why are we Greening Government ICT?

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Greening Government ICT

What I will cover today:

- The context
 - Where does Green fit in?
 - Our strategy
 - Our progress
 - Where next?
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The context: IT in the Public Sector...



- Over 99% of schools, have broadband access.
- 86% of secondary schools use E-mail to communicate with parents.



- Over 437 million images stored on the Picture Archiving
- Over 34 million electronic prescriptions (EPS) have been transmitted, reducing error and ensuring patient safety.



- 41,717 crimes solved with DNA matches in 2006/07 including 452 homicides, 644 rapes and 22 other sexual offences
- 27 million annualised airline passenger records processed in 122 routes and 77 carriers.

UK Public Sector spends c£14 billion each year on ICT and operates in over 140 countries worldwide

So where does green come into this?

The carbon footprint of the **ICT industry** is comparable to the **aviation industry**

Whitehall alone has **half a million** computers

- Turning them off overnight provides the same carbon emissions reduction as taking 40,000 cars off the road

Environmental impact costs money

What are we doing about it?

Greening Government ICT: Overview

- Cross-government initiative sponsored by Cabinet Office, the CIO and CTO Councils
 - Like other elements of Govt ICT strategy – CIO SRO
 - Green ICT Delivery Unit to advise and monitor
 - Greening Government ICT strategy published July 2008 – UK Government seen as a world leader
 - One Year On report published September 2009
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One Year On: progress

- Tremendous response and support - **110 Green ICT Action Plans submitted** – central & local government, and wider public sector
 - The **Green ICT Scorecard Pilot** is complete
 - A **Green ICT SOGE Map** identifies where and how Department can meet SOGE targets with Green ICT efficiencies.
 - Government and industry are **refreshing the recommended actions and top tips** in line with evolutions in the technology and environmental sectors.
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What next?

First stage of the strategy:

tackle the environmental footprint of ICT

Second stage of the strategy:

use ICT to reduce environmental footprints across
Government

Second stage – the challenge ahead

Four key areas of work:

- Technology
 - Education
 - Partnership
 - Leadership
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Technology

- More CIO green ICT steps to choose from
 - Close support to ensure plans are implemented
 - Support for an expanded network of practitioners to help make the plans a reality
 - Establish consistent ways of measuring with DEFRA and OGC
 - Extend our close partnership with Local Authorities and the wider public service
 - Extend our work internationally
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Education

- Not just green for green's sake – links to
 - Financial efficiency
 - Customer satisfaction
 - Staff engagement
 - Not just about the Government ICT community
 - Working with our industry partners as has benefits to the UK as a whole
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Partnership

- Reaching beyond the ICT community and working with colleagues across the public sector to reduce our carbon footprint and make financial efficiencies:
 - HR – mobility of staff and work/life balance through homeworking
 - Estates – reducing occupancy of buildings
 - Finance and Policy – building the green case into every business case
 - Reaching beyond the UK to work with international colleagues
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Leadership

- High on the political agenda – green is understood and promoted

However

- In our public sector organisations we need someone who understands and promotes the green case at board level
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A few final thoughts

- Opportunity for us to make a real difference
 - not about tree hugging - it is about our social responsibility
 - To do this we need to push our strategy further and continue to challenge
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