

Local Authority Websites National Project

Expression of Interest for Pilot Authorities

Introduction

The Local Authority Websites (LAWs) National Project is one of the national projects that were identified in the e-gov@local consultative document and referred to in the national strategy for local e-government, www.local.gov.uk.

The Local Authority Websites (LAWs) National Project will help local authorities to deliver higher quality and a wider range of services online. It is part of an £80m programme initiated by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister. The goal is for all local authorities to have access to appropriate solutions to meet the target of 100% electronically delivered or supported services by 2005.

By March 2004, the LAWs project will deliver a number of tools that will make this process easier for local authorities. At the core is a suite of website and infrastructure technologies and standards. These can be implemented in a modular or combined fashion dependent on local circumstances.

These solutions will be customer-focused, standards-based, relatively inexpensive and easy to implement and use and have a life beyond the project. Their implementation will be supported by a comprehensive knowledge base and best practice guidelines to manage the organisational change required.

The LAWs project builds on a number of Pathfinder projects including Camden APLAWS, Tameside Web-based services for local authority functions, the Sunderland Public Access Gateways and the Welland Community Portals.

The Project is lead by West Sussex County Council. The Project Board consists of representatives from: West Sussex County Council, London Borough of Camden, Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council, The Welland Partnership, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and the Office of the e-Envoy.

LAWs outputs

The LAWs project is creating a wide range of outputs covering the whole of a local authority's internet presence. The range of outputs is shown below. More information is available at the LAWs project website (<http://www.laws-project.org.uk/>).

Starter Kit (Tameside)

- Generic structure and website content covering all ESD toolkit services (<http://laws.tameside.gov.uk/>)
- Secure email hub (LGOL-Hub)
- Message brokering middleware (LGOL-Net) (<http://www.lgolnet.org/>)

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Content Management System (Camden)

- APLAWS Content Management System (<http://www.aplaws.org/>)
- XML template kit

Community Engagement (The Welland Partnership)

- Community modules
- Usability and accessibility testing and best practice guidelines
- Better Connected progress review
- Online usage and usability monitoring tool

Information Architecture and Standards (Camden)

- Local Government Category List (mapping to the Government Category List and esd-toolkit PID list) (<http://www.esd-toolkit.org/laws/>)
- Website architecture and metadata standards
- Syndication standards for local authorities

Organisational Development (West Sussex)

- Process maps
- Roles and responsibilities
- Performance and impact metrics

Rollout and Productisation

- Hosted options
- Out-of-box install, support and help desk

Pilots

The LAWs project is looking for a number of local authorities to pilot some or all of the outputs summarised above. LAWs wishes to include a range of authorities in order to fully test the applications, systems and services provided.

The LAWs Board has appointed Sopra Group to provide substantial support and assistance to LAWs project pilots, including a professional helpdesk and support services through to March 2004. This will be a significant benefit for any authority involved with the project, helping to streamline the implementation and running of the LAWs solutions. The pilots will also benefit from access to key LAWs team members where required.

The LAWs project cannot provide any direct cash funding to pilots, however all software outputs will be released open source and at zero license fee, ensuring that the costs to a pilot authority would be limited to the hardware and implementation resources required.

If you are interested in becoming a pilot for any of the LAWs outputs, please fill in the brief form below and email, fax or mail to the LAWs project office.

info@laws-project.org.uk

Fax: 020 7255 7420

Address: LAWs Project Office, iMPower, 40a Dover Street, London W1S 4NW



LAWs pilot expression of interest application

Name of Local Authority: _____

Type of Authority: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Position: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Email: _____

Website address: _____

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Please tick those elements of the LAWs outputs that you are interested in implementing in the table below and answer the questions that follow, as appropriate.

Solution element	✓
<i>Starter Kit (Tameside)</i>	
• Generic structure and website content (covering all ESD toolkit services)	
• Secure email hub (LGOL-Hub)	
• Message brokering middleware (LGOL-Net)	
<i>Content Management System (Camden)</i>	
• APLAWS+ Content Management System	
• XML template kit	
<i>Community Engagement (The Welland Partnership)</i>	
• Community modules	
• Usability and accessibility testing and best practice guidelines	
• Better Connected progress review	
• Online usage and usability monitoring tool	
<i>Information Architecture and Standards (Camden)</i>	
• Local Authority Category List (mapping to the Government Category List)	
• Website architecture and metadata standards	
• Syndication standards for local authorities	
<i>Organisational Development (West Sussex)</i>	
• Process maps	
• Roles and responsibilities	
• Performance and impact metrics	
<i>Rollout and Productisation (Sopra Group)</i>	
• Third-party hosted LAWs outputs	
• Out-of-box install, support and help desk	

Please tell us why you are interested in piloting some or all of the LAWs outputs?

Please summarise or attach details of your most recent BVPI 157 status report.



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Do you currently use a content management system for your website? If so, please state which one.

How many individuals are involved in managing your website?

Do you currently use a middleware product? If so, please state which one.

How many individuals are there in your IT department?

Do you have funds and resources to commit to the pilot / implementation?

What timescales do you have around a pilot implementation? (The LAWs project ends in March 2004)