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Your Hospital

NHS-HE Forum

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Mark Blakeman

Progress with the Best Practice NHS-HE Connectivity

What are we trying to achieve ?

- Connectivity, between Universities and the NHS to support;
  - Access to NHS systems from University networks
  - Access to University systems from the NHS
  - Access to internet based systems and we sites from within the NHS, when these would otherwise be blocked.
  - To leverage to bandwidth available to University for students when they are on NHS sites.
- To put in place policies and procedures to support connectivity, whilst not increasing the risks of data security to either party.
- To give organisations confidence that they can move forward with confidence that they are implementing best / common practice.
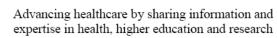

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In an ideal world !

– The NHS…

- wouldn't be so worried about data security (?)
- would have plenty of bandwidth
- would have nice new powerful Apple Macs
- wouldn't worry about staff abusing the internet
- would have modern systems that were compatible with the latest version of IE, flash, JAVA etc etc.

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In reality

– The NHS…

- is paranoid about data security
- has very limited bandwidth
- has old PCs
- block large parts of the internet because they worry about staff abusing the internet
- Have a variety of systems (including nationally provided systems) that are not compatible with the latest version of IE, flash, JAVA etc etc. (or the one before that, or the one before that…..)

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Our task therefore

– Is to find ways to live with the reality, rather than change it.

A group of experts (plus me)

Chris Franks (CF)	Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Andrew Howe (AH)	University of Dundee, Computing & Media Services
Natalie Lafferty (NL)	University of Dundee, Centre for Academic Clinical Practice
Martin Liddament (ML)	The Information Centre for Health & Social Care
Dave Moody (DM)	Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Andy Pellow (AP)	University of Leeds
Tim Robinson (TR)	Net North West
Andrew Steel (ASt)	University of Leeds
Malcolm Teague (MT)	JANET(UK)
Martin van Eker (MvE)	University of Bristol, Centre for Medical Education
Betsy Anagnostelis (BA)	Royal Free Hospital Medical Library & UCL Library Services
Ged Connelly-Thompson (GCT)	NIHR LMBRU
Joe Grant	University of Plymouth
Mark Packer (MP)	Brighton & Sussex Medical School
Andy Pellow (AP)	University of Leeds
Andy Richards (AR)	UCLH
Andrew Simpson (ASi)	Hampshire Healthcare Library Service
John Treadwell (JT)	Royal Devon & Exeter IMT Shared Service

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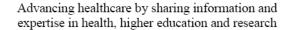www.nhs-he.org.uk/forum.html

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What will we actually deliver

1. A report into the issues.
2. A series of case studies.
3. Sample policies and procedures.

Potentially leading to

1. Identification of best practice
2. National policies

Strands of work

- Strand 1 – JANET Gateway
- Strand 2 – NHS access directly from NHS desktops
- Strand 3 – Use of terminal services
- Strand 4 - How the NHS and HE can network securely
- Strand 5 - Information Governance and Data Sharing

Strand 2: Access directly from NHS desktops

- Developed a Web 2.0, Social Media and Standard Desktop Facilities paper which will highlight the risks and issues and give a list of sites and services that ;
  - we would recommend are made widely available (white list)
  - that should be supported at least in limited locations.
  - Could be best delivered via a university log in.
- Producing a case study into the potential use of proxies (where by the user authenticates to a University gateway for browsing beyond the host trust's usual browsing provision).
- Sample policies and procedures for adaptation with regard to issuing usernames and passwords to students.

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Strand 3: Use of terminal services

- Practical solution
- Cost is an issue, though some organisations are looking at the technology strategically anyway.
- Gathering case studies from
  - Dundee
  - Bristol
  - Brighton Sussex Medical School
  - Cambridge
  - International corporate case study/design docs
- Considered and discounted the potential for a national solution.
- Approaching suppliers

Strand 4: How the NHS and HE can network securely

- Looking at best practice for direct networking between teaching hospitals and their local university.
- Complementary rather than a replacement of the JANET – N3 gateway
- Case studies from;
  - Manchester – shared network, separated by VLANs
  - Leeds – two physical networks on one site.
  - Truro and Oxford – Use of Eduroam as part of a solution to provide wireless access
- CISCO guest access white paper
- Potential changes to the JANET terms of use in August.

New Strand 5?

- **Information Governance and Data Sharing**
- Clearly important.
- Need to be clear about the scope of what we are trying to do.
- Potential to mushroom beyond the original scope of what we are trying to do.
- Contacting Clare Sanderson at the Information Centre for advice.

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Strand 1: N3 JANET Gateway

- Watching brief via Malcolm.

- Videoconferencing briefing document – potential to help deliver significant cost savings.

- Complementary to local links.

- Feedback later on the agenda from Max Finch.

Next Steps

- Completion of the case studies in the next month.
- Need to consider
  - Recommended actions
  - Best practice
  - Good practice
  - Case study
- Process for getting the report out;
  - Publish and be dammed ?
  - Work with DH ?
    - Writing to Christine Connelly and counter parts in Wales and Scotland to ask for their support.
    - Part of current review of IT strategy ?