

To EURIM Members and Observers

From Philip Virgo, EURIM Secretary General  
15 Chestnut Road, London SE27 9EZ  
Tel: 020 8761 5926; Fax: 020 8670 4345  
E-mail: virgo.philip@eurim.org

THE EUROPEAN  
INFORMATION  
SOCIETY GROUP

EURIM



## EURIM Newsletter and Notices - June 2004

### 1) Visions for 2010: Review of EURIM Priorities

#### *Setting the ICT Agendas for Next Year and Next Parliament*

The meeting of the EURIM Content and Issues panel on 5<sup>th</sup> May, chaired by Ian Stewart MP, gave a clear priority to the need to encourage the investment climate for innovative broadband products and services, from infrastructure to content. The second priority was “making the Internet safe for your family, your business and your children”. Third came the issues around the successful use of ICT to improve public services. In each area there are many subsidiary issues, from the skills to deliver (including the whole life-long learning agenda) to the rewards for tested and trusted innovation (from regulatory frameworks to intellectual property rights). A sub-group from the panel was tasked to work up the “*Points for your Manifesto*” paper and to identify which issues EURIM should address and with which groups we should aim to co-operate.

The second priority was progressed on 21<sup>st</sup> May when we reviewed our programme of co-operation with IPPR on E-Crime and agreed in principle to organise a major joint event in the autumn on the theme of “Making the Internet Safe”. This will also be promoted as part of the IPPR “Digital Manifesto” programme which is supported by a number of our Corporate Members, although the programme and content will be organised through the EURIM E-Crime group.

The first priority was progressed when the Communications Regulation Group met with Ofcom on 26<sup>th</sup> May, chaired by Brian White MP, to discuss how EURIM could best help their Communications Market Review. A number of difficult issues were discussed, including the need for a fundamental review of spectrum policy, but the meeting confirmed the priority for addressing the investment climate, in the context of UK global competitiveness, not only because the issues were critical but also because this was the area where both our members and Ofcom felt EURIM could add most value. On 22<sup>nd</sup> June Chris Godwin will host a small meeting to start planning how to make best use of the opportunity of the UK presidency of both the EU and the G8 in the second half of next year.

Many groups are now looking at parts of the Modernising Government agenda. The current EURIM focus is on the overall issues of personal identity and data sharing - not just ID cards and data protection. We are also co-operating with Kable on a survey into the opportunities and obstacles related to sharing services. This looks to be the area where we can indeed “make a difference”.

### 2) Personal Identity and Data Sharing

#### *Consultation and Scrutiny of the Draft Identity Cards Bill*

On 17<sup>th</sup> June we have a workshop with the Home Office Bill team on the consultation and scrutiny processes for the Identity Cards Bill ([www.identitycards@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:www.identitycards@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)). The deadline for submissions to the Home Office consultation is 20<sup>th</sup> July and the Home Affairs Select Committee has a parallel consultation with a more flexible timetable. There are routines for submissions to be exchanged but members will be advised to submit to both and cross-refer their submissions. It is also most helpful if those planning submissions could submit summaries of the main points to both, as soon as possible, with detail to follow later.

While the Home Affairs Select Committee is inviting responses on both policy and practical issues, the purpose of the Home Office consultation is to help the Government devise legislation that will enable the identity cards scheme to be introduced in the most effective way - Section 4.1 of the consultation paper gives a summary of 10 specific points for consultation.

The purpose of the EURIM programme is therefore similar to that with regard to the Ofcom Bill:

- to help with consultation and scrutiny;
- not to add another voice (or another forum) to the debate.

The current timetable is for the draft bill to be revised over the summer in the light of feedback during the consultation and for subsequent consideration by ministers. This would allow, subject to Parliamentary time being available, for a substantive Identity Cards Bill to be introduced during the 2004-2005 Session. EURIM may organise a further off-the-record workshop with the Bill team leaders in September or October to assist with the drafting stage of the Bill, if parties consider that this would be helpful in addressing areas of difficulty.

Please e-mail [eurim@eurim.org](mailto:eurim@eurim.org), copy to Dave Wright ([davywright2@ntlworld.com](mailto:davywright2@ntlworld.com)), if you plan to attend on 17<sup>th</sup> June. Please also email if you do not plan to attend but wish to be kept in touch with progress with our work on the wider issues of Personal Identity as well.

#### *Stimulating Debate on the Wider Issues*

The draft status report "*Citizen Or Subject: How Far Do We Control Our Own Identities*" has been sent to the full personal identity list for comment and a presentation meeting to all members is provisionally fixed for the morning of 7<sup>th</sup> July. The paper has been revised in the light of the draft ID Cards Bill but the issues go far wider, including with regard to the many "identity cards" already carried by the average Briton and the growing pressures, from both public and private sectors, to persuade consumers and businesses to use a variety of electronic identities. The objective is to focus debate on issues that have yet to be appreciated, let alone addressed, by some of those promoting "solutions". There is a need to build on the growing wealth of experience as to what consumers want, as well as to what works and what does not. This paper is also intended to help promote a more constructive debate on the growing number of public sector identity initiatives.

#### *Data Sharing or "mere" Data Protection*

The entire Modernising Government agenda is dependent upon responsible exchange of data to ensure improved efficiency and citizen/customer benefit. A meeting of the Personal Identity Group on 6<sup>th</sup> May, chaired by John Baker, found that while there is a proliferation of general guidance on data protection, little attention is paid to the implementation of legal requirements for data sharing (e.g. with regard to Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships). It was agreed that the solution is NOT more guidance, but training, education and support focussed on practical implementation and common frameworks for information management, accompanied by a 'demythologising' of the Data Protection Act.

A consultation meeting with Lord Filkin and officials in the DCA on 24<sup>th</sup> May decided that the current 'one size fits all' philosophy should be replaced by a proactive approach designed to drill down into sufficient detail to resolve the frustrations experienced by practitioners and citizens. It was recommended that a single body within Government should co-ordinate information strategy and the various data sharing initiatives, and as a first step, case studies would be posted on the DCA website. There was some discussion of the benefits of a consent-driven model and the need for culture change, but legislation would be required for Government to be able to collect and share data across all departments. The group is mapping current initiatives and practices - please send relevant URLs to [davywright2@ntlworld.com](mailto:davywright2@ntlworld.com).

The group plans to review progress on 29<sup>th</sup> July with a view to drafting a status report over the summer for presentation in September.

### **3) Envisioning the future of communications policy and regulation**

#### *Digital Convergence, the BBC Charter and Public Service Broadcasting*

The Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology sent out a revised note for comment after the round table on the public policy implications of converging digital technologies for the review of the BBC Royal Charter. This exercise heightened concerns about the way lobbying has polarised around the preservation of business models which look set to be obsolescent well before 2010.

The PITCOM meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> May on “The Widening Gap” began with a presentation by David Harrington on the pace of change in other parts of the world (e-mail [eurim@eurim.org](mailto:eurim@eurim.org) for a copy of David’s text and tabled slide presentation). Anthony Walker then gave a BSG perspective followed by robust presentations by John Pluthero of Energis and Sandy Walkington from BT. Stephen Timms then replied with a call for inputs as to what the vision for 2010 should be. A report of the meeting will be available at [www.kablenet.com/pitcom](http://www.kablenet.com/pitcom).

The implications for the evolution of Public Service Broadcasting were further explored in a Westminster Media Forum event on 25<sup>th</sup> May, with almost no representatives from the Internet or Telecoms communities. Given the position of the BBC as one of the world’s most visited Internet content providers it will be interesting to see the attendance at the WMF event on 24<sup>th</sup> June on the review of the BBC Digital Services. As mentioned above, on 26<sup>th</sup> May we met with Alex Blowers (Head of Policy Development at Ofcom) to review our priorities vis a vis Ofcom. In introducing the Telecoms review he explained that the current strategic review afforded the opportunity for a fresh look at the sector after the recent ‘capital famine’. That fresh look needed to include changing the climate for investment in innovative products, services and content. He agreed that this was the area where EURIM could add most value, given that many groups are looking at the other areas while this is crucial to success, with responsibility for action also fragmented across a number of action squares, not just Ofcom.

Members are reminded that responses to the Ofcom telecoms review Phase 1 Consultation document, [www.ofcom.org.uk/consultations/current/telecoms\\_review/](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/consultations/current/telecoms_review/), are due by 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

### **4) Making the Internet Safe For You and Your Children**

#### *Providing Skills for Justice*

The discussion paper, launched on 18<sup>th</sup> May at 14.00, was well reviewed and reported in most of the On-Line media (BBC On-Line, Silicon.Com, CW.Com, VNU etc.) as well as On Digital (BBC World Service). The chief executive of Skills for Justice has gone on record welcoming the recommendations and looks forward to being given the remit and resources to implement the tasks envisaged for this new Sector Skills Council. But a recommendation is not an action until it is implemented. The next stage of the study will include the need to ensure that the remit and resources are indeed forthcoming.

The stage will also include the build up to the high level event in the autumn that we have agreed in principle with IPPR. The intention is to provide a suitable political platform for the necessary actions, by industry as well as by government and law enforcement, to be announced. We will start the planning for this next month.

#### *Reducing Vulnerability, including for Retained Data*

In the meantime, the Small Firms Security group will be meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> June to review progress and we are also planning workshops on reducing vulnerability, both with regard to mass markets (including consumers and their families) and along supply chains. The former will be joint with IWF and its partners.

There is growing interest in the need to research the costs and practicality of securely retaining, maintaining, and analysing large volumes of data which may contain potential evidence (whether for law enforcement, regulatory, fiscal, liability or research reasons). Some of the UK’s largest and most

sensitive on-line scientific and military databases are already under regular and increasingly sophisticated assault.

This is not a future problem. It is here and now. Unless addressed, it threatens the intelligence, let alone evidential, value of major files of retained data. The legal and practical implications and issues are wide-ranging and the E-Business Regulatory Alliance ([www.e-ra.org.uk](http://www.e-ra.org.uk)) is planning an all-day event on 30<sup>th</sup> June on current legal issues and requirements with regard to RIPA and data retention, sharing and protection, both civil and criminal, public and private. This will feed into the EURIM work on Data Sharing as well as help identify those interested in further work in this area. Please e-mail [geoffpetherick@cngdev.com](mailto:geoffpetherick@cngdev.com) for details.

## **5) E-money and Mobile Operators**

### *Consultation on the Treatment of Mobile Operators under the E-money Directive*

While this consultation is mainly aimed at mobile operators the Commission has recognised that, with the evolving nature of global payment services, it should also call for inputs from content providers, technology companies and others who may be planning products and services which will be affected, as well as from consumers. The relevant English language press release and text can be found at [www.europa.eu.int/comm/internal\\_market/bank/e-money/index\\_en.htm](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/internal_market/bank/e-money/index_en.htm) . The deadline for comments (to [Markt-F2@cec.eu.int](mailto:Markt-F2@cec.eu.int)) is 16<sup>th</sup> July.

To EURIM Members and Observers  
From Philip Virgo, EURIM Secretary General  
15 Chestnut Road, London SE27 9EZ  
Tel: 020 8761 5926; Fax: 020 8670 4345  
E-mail: [virgo.philip@eurim.org](mailto:virgo.philip@eurim.org)

THE EUROPEAN  
INFORMATION  
SOCIETY GROUP

EURIM



## EURIM Timetable - June 2004

This timetable lists forthcoming meetings arranged by EURIM and also includes some, arranged by other organisations, which are likely to be of interest to EURIM's Members and Observers.

Unless otherwise indicated EURIM meetings are open to all members and accredited observers. There is no charge for attendance but prior registration is required. If you wish to attend or would like more information please contact the named individual or [eurim@eurim.org](mailto:eurim@eurim.org).

For information about meetings arranged by other organisations, please contact the person or website indicated against the entry. Note that for some events, there is an entry fee and pre-registration is essential.

### JUNE

*Date:* Friday, **11** June 2004  
*Time:* 10.00 – 12.00  
*Organiser:* EURIM – E-Crime group  
*Description:* E-Crime and Small Firms Security - review of progress:  
*Attendance:* For details and invitation please contact [chris.devine@camelotgroup.co.uk](mailto:chris.devine@camelotgroup.co.uk)

*Date:* Thursday, **17** June 2004  
*Time:* 10.00 – 12.00  
*Venue:* Thatcher Room, Portcullis House (over Westminster Tube Station)  
*Organiser:* EURIM Personal Identity Group  
*Description:* Briefing on the ID Card Consultation Processes with the Bill Team and others.  
*Attendance:* Please notify [eurim@eurim.org](mailto:eurim@eurim.org) if you wish to attend

*Date:* Tuesday, **22** June 2004  
*Time:* 14.00 - 16.00  
*Venue:* IBM, Hosted by Chris Godwin  
*Organiser:* EURIM Competitiveness Group  
*Description:* Communications Competitiveness, Investment and Innovation, workshop to plan programme to develop briefing(s) on the issues to be addressed during the UK presidencies of the EU and G8 (2005).  
*Attendance:* Please notify [eurim@eurim.org](mailto:eurim@eurim.org) if you wish to attend

*Date:* Tuesday **22** – Wednesday **23** June  
*Venue:* Earls Court  
*Organiser:* Kable Ltd  
*Description:* Government Computing Conference and Exhibition - GC2004expo  
*Attendance:* Information and registration details at: [www.gcexpo.com](http://www.gcexpo.com)

*Date:* Thursday, **24** June 2004  
*Time:* All Day  
*Organiser* Westminster Media Forum  
*Description* Review of BBC Digital Services: public forum to assist the government review, introduced by Patrick Barwise and Tim Gardam.  
*Attendance:* For details please contact Peter van Gelder  
[pvg@westminsterforumprojects.co.uk](mailto:pvg@westminsterforumprojects.co.uk)

*Date:* Monday, **28** June 2004  
*Time:* 11.00 - 14.00  
*Organiser* E-RA  
*Description* Presentation and discussion on the Waste Electrical and Electronic Directive with DTI and Commission  
*Attendance:* Contact [will.roebuck@e-ra.org.uk](mailto:will.roebuck@e-ra.org.uk) for details

*Date:* Monday **28** June, 2004  
*Organiser* PITCOM  
*Description* Members' meeting: Joined up Criminal Justice? A progress report  
*Attendance* PITCOM members only: joining details at [www.pitcom.org.uk](http://www.pitcom.org.uk)

*Date:* Wednesday, **30** June 2004  
*Time:* All Day  
*Venue:* LogicaCMG  
*Organiser* E-RA  
*Description* RIPA data retention, sharing and protection, civilian and criminal, public and private: seminar on current legal requirements and obligations.  
*Attendance:* Contact [geoffpetherick@cngdev.com](mailto:geoffpetherick@cngdev.com) for details

## **JULY**

*Date:* Thursday, **1** July 2004  
*Time:* Afternoon  
*Venue:* Lewis Media Centre, Millbank Tower SW1  
*Organiser* Westminster eForum,  
*Description:* Seminar: ICT in schools, with Stephen Twigg MP, Minister for Schools  
*Attendance* for details please contact Peter van Gelder  
[pvg@westminsterforumprojects.co.uk](mailto:pvg@westminsterforumprojects.co.uk)

*Date:* Tuesday, **6** July, 2004  
*Time:* 16.00-17.00  
*Organiser* EURIM  
*Description* EURIM Board and Council  
*Attendance:* Directors, Council Members and Officers only

*Date:* Wednesday, **7** July, 2004 **PROVISIONAL**  
*Time:* Morning  
*Organiser* EURIM Personal Identity Group  
*Description* Presentation and review of Status Report  
*Attendance:* All EURIM Members and Observers will be invited to attend

*Date:* Wednesday, **14** July, 2004 **PROVISIONAL**  
*Time:* Morning  
*Organiser* EURIM-IPPR E-crime study  
*Description* Overall progress review and forward planning meeting  
*Attendance:* Registered participants in the study

*Date:* Wednesday, **14** July, 2004 **PROVISIONAL**  
*Time:* Afternoon  
*Organiser* EURIM-IPPR E-crime study  
*Description* Workshop on reducing vulnerabilities  
*Attendance:* Members of the working group and invited guests

*Date:* Thursday, **29** July, 2004 **PROVISIONAL**  
*Time:* Morning  
*Organiser* EURIM Data sharing group  
*Description* Peer review of draft Status Report  
*Attendance:* Members of the working group

## **SEPTEMBER**

*Date:* Wednesday, **8** September, 2004 **PROVISIONAL**  
*Time:* Morning  
*Organiser* EURIM Data Sharing group  
*Description* Presentation and review of Status Report  
*Attendance:* All EURIM Members and Observers will be invited to attend