

Digital Birmingham Executive Board Meeting, 24<sup>th</sup> June 2009

Action Notes

Present	Apologies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Frank Mills, BT (Chair)</b></li> <li>- Chris Price, Digital Birmingham</li> <li>- Barry Clewer, BACOP</li> <li>- David Taylor, University Hospital Birmingham</li> <li>- Steve Somerfield, Service Birmingham</li> <li>- Peter Wall, WG Eaton</li> <li>- Neil Serougi, Solihull Care Trust</li> <li>- Keith Budden, Be Birmingham</li> <li>- Peter Shearer, Aston University</li> <li>- Hugo Russell, iCentrum,</li> <li>- Martin Abbott, CISCO</li> <li>- Marc Reeves, Birmingham Post</li> <li>- Padma Reddy, University of Birmingham</li> <li>- Chris Jennings, Redstone</li> <li>- Dominic Gill, Microsoft</li> <li>- David Thomas, Virgin Media</li> <li>- Derek Lote, Business Link WM</li> <li>- Michael Lewis, Service Birmingham</li> <li>- Peyara Begum, Saathi House</li> <li>- Alex Grimsley, BEN PCT</li> <li>- Neil Bannon, BEN PCT</li> <li>- Nikki Spencer, Digital Birmingham</li> <li>- Nicola Bryant, Digital Birmingham</li> <li>- Claire Davis, Digital Birmingham</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cllr Paul Tilsley, BCC</li> <li>- Glyn Evans, BCC</li> <li>- Arpinder Bansi, Atkins</li> <li>- Tim Sewell, Family Housing</li> <li>- Ian Binks, BT</li> <li>- Judith Mackay, Projects in Motion</li> <li>- Fahri Zihni, Aston University</li> <li>- Philip Wells, AWM ICT Cluster</li> <li>- Richard Haynes, Deloitte</li> <li>- Tim Manson, Marketing Birmingham</li> <li>- Philip Singleton, BCC</li> <li>- Sharon Hodson, Vodafone</li> <li>- Richard Mendelsohn, BEN PCT</li> <li>- Brendan O'Brien, BANF</li> <li>- Trevor Potten, BCU</li> <li>- Chris Leggett, Service Birmingham</li> <li>- Cath Hearne, BBC</li> <li>- Adrian Middleton, AWM</li> <li>- Khembe Clarke, Redstone</li> <li>- Chris Spencer-Jones, South Bham PCT</li> </ul>
<p><b>Notes: Claire Davis</b></p>	

**Introductions, matters arising, and actions from last meeting:**

New members were introduced at the Board meeting – David Taylor, Marc Reeves, Neil Serougi and Padma Reddy.

All action points had been met from the previous meeting, except the update from the LUCID evaluation event on 26<sup>th</sup> March which will be provided on email shortly, and the minutes were agreed as an accurate reflection of the March Board.

**Digital Birmingham Update – Chris Price, Director of Digital Birmingham**

The national *Home Access grant scheme* - is gathering pace, and will be targeting those children who receive free school meals. BCC, with support from Digital Birmingham, will be doing it in an aggregated way while preserving parental choice. The Home Access grant scheme paper is being distributed to all Local Authorities at present. The public announcement will be in Autumn 2009 - £130 million is available and this funding will be awarded after Christmas 2009.

*DC10* - has been granted further funding from DCLG until March 2010. It will be re-branded from Digital Challenge 10+ possibly to Digital Challenge Network (DCN) – hopefully leading to the network becoming sustainable once the current external funding has ended.

*Social Media* – Digital Birmingham is engaging successfully with the Birmingham blogging community (proven by the turn out at the Digital Britain Unconference at Fazeley Studios on 17<sup>th</sup> June).

*Big Event 2010* is a major area of activity– an update is on the agenda.

Members of the Board highlighted the need for support of the older generation in getting access to computers. A lot of focus appears to be on children and young people at present, but there is a lot of potential to include older people in these initiatives. The Home Access initiative does take this into account, as it is seen as “access for all”, the younger generation teach their elders how to use IT. Barry Clewer, who represents the Birmingham Advisory Council for Older People (BACOP) was invited to provide suggestions on what else could be done.

Progress regarding the “Stay Local” website will be provided as an update on the next Headline Report.

**PLaces to go, thINGS to do (PLINGS Project) – Nikki Spencer, Empowerment Manager, Digital Birmingham**

The PLINGS project has been brought together by the BCC Children, Young People & Families (CYP&F) Directorate, Service Birmingham and Digital Birmingham as an advisory consultant. It is building on the Inspection & Education Act 2006. The project engages and provides support to young people aged 13-19 (PAYP). BCC is one of 20 LA's involved in the pilot.

Currently looking at provision of data e.g. how it published and presented (RSS feeds, multi-channels). The design provides a front end that young people would prefer to engage with, specifically designed to attract and engage with them. PLINGS includes real-time information and the resource [www.ineed2know.org.uk](http://www.ineed2know.org.uk).

There were issues including the fact that the content needed was in a variety of places, and there have been technical issues with automating the RSS feeds.

However, the resource will be going live in Birmingham by the end of July 2009 in time for the summer holidays – it is hoped that the new resource will decrease anti-social behaviour over the holidays by providing young people with more choices about what they can do with their free time. There will be an early evaluation completed in October 2009.

Nikki's full presentation can be found at: <http://www.digitalbirmingham.co.uk/board-minutes>

**Keeping IT in the Family update – Nikki Spencer, Empowerment Manager, Digital Birmingham**

Phase 2 was launched in May 2009 on Silver Surfers Day at Acocks Green Library. A group of school children from one of our Digital Schools went to the library to assist a group of Silver Surfers to use the internet, this included buying online and reading news stories.

One of the focuses of the Phase 2 comics was social networks as research discovered children were not as savvy on these websites as initially expected. Baseline impact statements will be done. 26 schools involved in the Computers for Pupils will be distributing the comics to children; the comics will also be available in libraries and on the web.

The Keeping IT in the Family project has been shortlisted in the "Best Development Project Award" in the Nominet Best Practice Challenge 2009 (shortlist is available at <http://www.nominet.org.uk/about/bestpracticechallenge/#shortlist>). The awards will be presented to the winners at an awards ceremony on 2<sup>nd</sup> July in Whitehall, London.

**Healthy Way to Learn IT – Michael Lewis, IT Business Officer, Link2ICT Service Birmingham and Peyara Begum, Saathi House**

This project originated from the DC10+ network. Aston was the identified neighbourhood where the pilot would run from because of the high Asian population (English as second language etc) and the high level of people who suffer from diabetes. Many Asian people find it difficult to interact with their GPs or the NHS to get appropriate treatment. Many do not realise the seriousness of the illness. The 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisation, Saathi House, was brought on board due to its valued relationships with many Asian women and children in Aston – and in this culture women are identified as the main educators in the family.

17 female learners took part in the pilot – learning mentors and volunteers were recruited to deliver the training. Skype was also provided as a resource to the learners – which wasn't utilised as much as anticipated. The project outcomes were developed in line with the standard National Indicators. A virtual learning environment (VLE) will be available on the internet by the summer of this year.

Members of the board highlighted Hi8us' work across Birmingham, especially in regards to edrama for health – it was suggested that this project would be worth linking in due to the similar work going on. An initiative put together by Maverick TV, BT and the University of Birmingham has been hailed a success by the Economic Social Research Council (ESRC).

Michael's full presentation can be found at: <http://www.digitalbirmingham.co.uk/board-minutes>

**IPTV Project – Alex Grimsley, Project Manager, Birmingham East & North PCT**

The Internet Protocol over TV (IPTV) project is now up and running, project managed by BEN PCT, working with Digital Birmingham. A set top box is put into the home which includes an extra channel. This channel is personalised to the individual/family in the home e.g. a person who has recently suffered a stroke could be provided with speech exercises via this personal channel to help their recovery. It also includes email and calendar applications that can be used to record health/carer visits etc so the individual keeps all the information together. A map also enables GP surgeries to be plotted, and IDTV channels are utilised so the householder can e.g. report graffiti, check travel (bus/train) times and Job Centre Plus real-time job adverts.

10 homes will be used in the pilot project. BEN PCT and NHS Direct will be looking into who the pilot households would be in regards to who would utilise and benefit from the resource the most. IPTV also enable tele-health monitoring, which would help decrease "bed-blocking" allowing doctors to send well enough patients home earlier.

Sensors can be fitted in households to monitor someone's movements e.g. if someone has not got out of bed, or had a fall, an alarm can be sent to health agencies or a carer to inform them of the problem.

David Taylor suggested links with Medilink WM regarding their i-House in West Bromwich. Also, Keith Budden highlighted the obvious links with the FP7 DEHEMS (Digital Environment Home Energy Management System) project that Be Birmingham and Digital Birmingham are involved with. Also, the Treasury's initiative "Total Place Pilot" was mentioned – this pulls all public sector funding together which will definitely be the way forward in the future.

Alex's full presentation can be found at: <http://www.digitalbirmingham.co.uk/board-minutes>

**University Hospital Birmingham – David Taylor, Head of Social Regeneration, UHB**

The new University Hospital Birmingham (UHB) in Edgbaston is on course to open in June 2010. It will have 1,200 beds; 7,000 staff; 500,000 patients and 500,000 visitors per year i.e. it will be a tourist attraction too. Wifi will be built in around the hospital, and new age technology will be used continuously – however, this cannot totally replace f2f training.

3D Virtual Simulation software allows users to interact in a computer simulated environment, thereby tackling 2 key issues – 1) Way finding for patients and visitors whilst in the hospital premises and 2) staff induction and orientation.

The "Way Finder" system will be integrated with self check-in; it will have interactive and easy to use menu screens and language options for navigation.

RFID will enable assets to be easily tracked and identified – tackling key issues such as asset inventory and maintenance.

David's full presentation can be found at:

<http://www.digitalbirmingham.co.uk/board-minutes>

**Digital Britain event 17<sup>th</sup> June – Chris Price, Director of Digital Birmingham**

The Digital Britain event on 17<sup>th</sup> June, attended by Lord Carter, was hailed a huge success. Over 160 delegates attended the ICC conference, and 70 visited the unconference at Fazeley Studios.

For further information about the press coverage and delegates please contact Nicola Bryant ([Nicola.bryant@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:Nicola.bryant@birmingham.gov.uk)).

**Big Event 2010 update – Nicola Bryant, Business Development Manager, Digital Birmingham**

The event will be linked to Hello Digital and the Eurocities Knowledge Society Forum's AGM in Birmingham. It is a way of showcasing Birmingham as a leading city opposite other national and international cities alike. A planning workshop was held on 19<sup>th</sup> June to brainstorm ideas, over 20 people gave their time to this workshop and the results were very positive.

The deadline is July for finalising a concept, name and structure of the day – as sponsors, suppliers and speakers need to be approached sooner rather than later. The ideas around this are better explained on Nicola's slides (link below). The event will be linked into the Thought Leadership Agenda

The Board members were invited to suggest a name for the conference – it has been decided that "digital" does not have to be in the title.

Peter Shearer invited Nicola Bryant to be part of the British Association Festival of Science which will be taking place in Birmingham from 14-19/09/2010 (venues = Aston University, Technology Innovation Centre and the ThinkTank at Millennium Point).

Nicola's presentation can be found at: <http://www.digitalbirmingham.co.uk/board-minutes>

**Panel Updates**

**Learning:** It has been discussed that the membership of this particular panel is difficult to maintain, therefore the panel will be disbanded and will be replaced by learning projects.

**Health & Care:** A working group is currently being brought together to progress this agenda and identify priorities. More updates will follow.

**Marketing:** This panel continues to work successfully – provided support for the Big Event 2010 planning workshop on 19<sup>th</sup> June. The board were invited to become more involved in the planning for next year's event – contact Nicola Bryant. The successful Digital Family campaign will be drawing to a close in September, Digital Birmingham thanks the Birmingham Mail and BT for their support throughout the campaign. The Locke Family have benefited greatly from being Birmingham's first Digital Family.

**Business:** Continue to collaborate effectively – currently promoting Index Vouchers (an initiative launched by Aston University) to help SMEs get by in the economic crisis. The Board were encouraged to promote these vouchers to appropriate colleagues.

**Actions:**

Barry Clewer (BACOP) was invited to suggest how the older generation can be better engaged in computer use and training. **(Barry Clewer)**

An update will be provided on the "Staying Local" initiative in the next Digital Birmingham Headline Report. **(Nicola Bryant)**

The Board were asked to help in finding a name for the Big Event in 2010 that will showcase Birmingham as a digital city. **(All)**

The Board were asked to promote the use of Index Vouchers to appropriate colleagues. For more information, contact Hugo Russell or Peter Shearer. **(All)**

Business Link to provide an ITAS update as an agenda item at the next Digital Birmingham Executive Board on 23/09/09. **(Derek Lote)**

Service Birmingham (through Fred Shaw) to progress the access/training idea for older people with the recycled computers initiative and report back to the Board, and review how this could fit with the current recycling scheme. **(Steve Somerfield)**

Nicola Bryant to attend the BA Festival of Science Operations Board, via invitation from Peter Shearer. **(Peter Shearer)**

**AOB:** The IT Advisory Service (ITAS) run by Business Link WM and funded by Advantage West Midlands will be launched imminently (over the next few weeks). Support and further information is available now. Business Link WM have agreed to present ITAS at the September meeting, by that time the service will be established.

Many members of the Board put forward their interest in support the older generation in accessing and using computers, with hardware supply and training. Padma Reddy offered for the University of Birmingham to lead on the proposal, and to work closely with companies such as Secure IT and ENTA to get the recycled computers to older people who would benefit from it, and they would supply the training. Steve Somerfield will speak to Fred Shaw (Service Birmingham) who leads on the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) agenda to take this forward re possibilities, cost, demand etc.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2009 - 15.30-17.30

**Venue:** Committee Rooms 3 and 4, Birmingham City Council House, Victoria Square, Birmingham, B1 1BB.