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News

GC Innovation Award winners announced

19 April 2000

Four projects and two individuals won the Government Computing Innovation Awards, presented on the last day of the GC2000 exhibition

Four innovative projects which make public services better have been given awards by *Government Computing*, the independent magazine about information-age services.

Two individuals -- one politician and one civil servant -- have also been honoured for their major contributions to bringing services into the modern world. The judges also commended a further six projects.

The Government Computing Innovation Awards were presented on 19 April 2000 in the closing stages of the magazine's exhibition and conference, GC2000, held at the Business Design Centre in London. Margaret Moran MP (Labour, Luton South) presented the Awards, which are sponsored by Syntegra and supported by the Central Computer and Telecommunications Agency, part of the Treasury's Office of Government Commerce.

Margaret Moran kindly agreed to present the Awards at short notice, replacing Alex Allan, the Government's e-envoy, who was unable to attend for personal reasons.

This year's Awards go to:

The most joined-up project -- involving two or more organisations in the UK public services

Infoshop, involving the Cabinet Office, three other central departments and 14 local authorities -- an IT system that allows frontline staff to answer complex queries from the public or business on regulations covering food safety, health and safety, building control and planning. Local authorities can free their technical experts' time, handle queries more efficiently and empower administrative staff.

The best project for services to the citizen

Derbyshire County Council's Derbyshire Learning and Technology Access, which extends an existing information-age service which is in 11 "bricks and mortar" libraries to three mobile libraries using a combination of radio links and digital telecommunications. The resulting network of 75 public access PCs is attracting 20,000 rural users in Derbyshire each month.

The best project for services to business

Cattle Tracing System, by the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food. This was established in 16 months because of the need to regulate and trace all cattle movements in Britain. The service successfully handles 30m business transactions a year -- including electronic transactions direct from industry -- and supports a two-day turnaround time for registering cattle movements.

The best project for improving the way the public services

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operate

Employment Service Direct, a national telephone job-matching service for callers. Service is through a single nationwide number but is provided from 111 sites across the country. So far it has placed nearly 65,000 people into jobs and places 1,200 each week. The project started in January 1999 after only 12 weeks' development, initially for a trial three months.

Individual Awards

Government Computing asked for nominations for the Information Age Innovator of the Year. The judges decided to present two awards:

Margaret Moran MP, (Labour, Luton South)* -- former council leader of the London Borough of Lewisham where she started its development as a beacon information-age council, now a wired MP, an innovative thinker and user of the technology for constituency and policy matters;

Mark Gladwyn, deputy director of the Central IT Unit of the Cabinet Office, an official who has been behind open.gov.uk, central to *Government Direct* and the *Modernising Government* agenda, and a real innovator in the development of me.gov.uk and the Government Gateway.

Commendations:

All Party Parliamentary Group on Domestic Violence -- Internet Consultation

Inland Revenue -- Business with Government

London and Quadrant Housing Trust -- Residents Online

Newham Online

NHS Supplies -- Electronic Purchasing Catalogue

Valuation Office Agency -- Rating Lists on the Internet

There was a record entry for the Awards this year, of almost 80 projects, and 22 were [shortlisted](#). Four individuals were shortlisted for the innovator of the year award, but Mark Gladwyn's presentation was a special award by the judges. The Awards were first held in 1996.

Profiles of the winning entries, and some of those shortlisted, will be published on [this site](#) over the coming months.

*The judges' decision was made before *Government Computing* decided to ask her to stand in for Alex Allan.

Source: GC



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The Government Computing Innovation Awards 2000**Recognising the best in modernising government**

Government Computing has been honouring the best in UK information-age government at our annual conference since 1996.

The Government Computing Innovation Awards 2000 will be presented at 15.45 on Wednesday 19 April 2000, the second day of the [GC2000](#) conference and exhibition, which is being held at the [Business Design Centre](#), Upper Street, London N1.

The Awards are sponsored - as in 1998 and 1999 - by Syntegra and supported, as in 1999, by the Government's Central Computer and Telecommunications Agency. Government Computing is grateful to both these organisations for their support.

The following projects have been shortlisted for this year:**Category A: the most joined-up project -- involving two or more organisations in the UK public services**

A project that uses information-age services to link at least two organisations in the public service in a novel and imaginative way. Entries for this category might also be entered for one or more of the other categories.

- Business with Government -- Inland Revenue/DTI/Companies House/ACAS
- Infoshop -- Cabinet Office/DETR/DoH/HSE/Bexley Council and 13 other councils
- NGDF Metadata Gateway -- Ordnance Survey/British Geological Survey/Citu/DETR/Land Registry/IDeA/NJUG/ONS/OSNI/Royal Mail
- Newham Online -- Newham Online/Newham Council/UEL/Newham College of FE/Newham Sixth Form Coll/London East TEC
- Residents Online -- London and Quadrant/Housing Corp/ACLF/Lewisham College/Employment Plus/Computers for Charity
- Welfare Information System -- DSS/DfEE/Scottish Executive

Category B: the best project for services to the citizen

This includes such areas as one-stop-shops, web sites, on-line payments and registrations, information services, emergency services, on-line democracy, health care services and call centres.

- Bilingual Webcasting Service -- Gwynedd Council
- Council Report Tracking -- London Borough of Brent
- Derbyshire Learning and Technology Access -- Derbyshire County Council
- Employment Service Direct -- Employment Service
- Herts Connect -- Hertfordshire County Council

Category C: the best projects for services to business

Includes outward-facing services such as business advice and financial aid, services such as land registration, planning and tax that are essentially aimed at business.

No documents found

- Cattle Tracing System -- MAFF
- LEDU Extranet -- Dept of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, NI
- Rating Lists on the Internet -- Valuation Office Agency
- Registers Direct -- Registers of Scotland
- Rural Wales E-commerce -- Llwybr Pathway

Category D: the best project for improving the way the public services operate

Electronic commerce by public sector organisations, such as the use of electronic purchasing, catalogues, and PFI projects, as well as development strategies and policies such as the use of commercial versus bespoke systems. Plus networks and systems within and across organisations, intranets and other services for officials, MPs and councillors, including security features.

- Correspondence Handling System -- DfEE
- Customer Relationship Management -- Leeds City Council
- Domestic Violence Internet Consultation -- All Party Parliamentary Group on Domestic Violence
- ONS Intranet -- Office of National Statistics
- Purchasing Contracts CD-ROM/Web Catalogue -- NHS Supplies
- Surrey Police Information and Knowledge Environment -- Surrey Police

Category E: information-age innovator of the year

A personal achievement award for the individual who has done most - either through a project nominated in the other categories or otherwise - to advance the cause of information-age government.

- Phil Beeley, strategic best value manager, Wakefield Council
- Margaret Moran MP (Labour, Luton S)
- Bill Ogley, chief executive, Hertfordshire County Council
- Angela Vivian, consultant

What the judges are looking for

We want to recognise the teams and the individuals responsible for this year's best information-age projects anywhere in public services.

The judges will be asked to take into account factors such as:

- innovation in the use of information age systems
- clear improvement in quality service
- collaboration across organisations
- value for money
- readiness to share information with other public services

Details of winners

The list of winners will be posted on the main KableNET news page to appear at about 16.15 on 19 April. *Government Computing* will carry a full list in the May issue and more details in the June issue. The magazine will publish case studies of the winning projects monthly -- and these will also appear on KableNET.

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