tScheme Member Briefing - April 2004

tScheme promotional event: Wednesday 21st April

A separate weekly report is being circulated to all Members, with a direct request to review invitations and acceptances, and where appropriate to extend personal invitations to their key contacts.

An initial list of target Press contacts have now been sent an invitation announcing the date and the outline event content. Additional target attendees will be identified and engaged with the professional support of Chelgate Ltd., who have now begun an initial three month assignment beginning 1 April, and will be contributing both to the final pre-event activity and the post-event communications campaign. A Press Release on Chelgate's appointment will be issued very soon.

A reminder of the main messages we wish to communicate at the event itself:

- the fourth anniversary of the '*tScheme* Charter' is coming up on 25th May: the date of Royal Assent to the Electronic Communications Act (2000), for which *tScheme* continues to be HMG's preferred option in fulfilling Part I - and therefore the beginning of the final year of the "sunset clause" in the Act, beyond which a new Act would be required (which no-one is advocating, least of all HMG);
- the success of *tScheme* in achieving its initial objectives by establishing a robust independent regulatory scheme, within the context of international accreditation and independent assessment standards, and in line with DTI objectives on industry co-regulation;
- *tScheme*'s growing role as the independent regulator for all services in the emerging area of electronic identity provision and management, including for e-government services;
- the important contribution being made by *tScheme* in enabling real government 'g2b' projects, as an independent source of 'best-practice' service assurance [with brief overview presentations on *tScheme*'s importance to the DTI's Oil & Gas portal and to the MOD's Defence eCommerce service].

Naturally we will continue our communications campaign in the months following the event, again with the professional support of Chelgate Ltd.

eGovernment National Project showcase

Building on our strong links with the Local Authority consortium leading the National Benefits Project, we will be supporting their exhibition presence - both in person and through messages on the need for secure online identity, for inclusion in their handout material - at the LGA/ODPM showcase event in Birmingham on April 27th/28th; to reinforce the case for *tScheme* 'Electronic Identity Service' approvals for all relevant National Projects - including the Local eGovernment Standards Body.

Secure Britain Masterclass

Although we could not justify the cost of direct representation at this event at Olympia in the last week of March, we succeeded in ensuring that *tScheme* was included in the key messages during the relevant session of the conference, through a brief to the e-Envoy representative leading the session - and through the small *tScheme* membership delegation attending the event.

Board election 2004

In total, seven candidate nominations for the six seats up for election this year were duly submitted by the closing date of 30th March. A brief pen-picture of each candidate has been posted in the Members' area of the *tScheme* website, to support their candidacy; and ballot papers have been issued by e-mail to all Members' Main Contacts, containing the names of all seven candidates.

All paid-up Members at the end of March are eligible to submit one set of votes, on a candidate order-of-preference basis, and signed ballot papers are to be returned preferably by FAX, by Friday 30th April. The election result will be announced in the form of a list of successful candidates duly elected, by e-mail to all Members' Main Contacts on 3rd May.

Full details of the voting procedure can be found in the Election Briefing and the Ballot paper issued on 5th April.

Notice of Annual General Meeting 2004

A formal Notice of the fourth Annual General Meeting of *tScheme* Limited, taking place this year at 1100 on Thursday 13th May, has also been issued on 5th April.

This meeting will be hosted once again by *Inter*Forum at the Financial Times Building, 1 Southwark Bridge, London SE1.

The AGM papers issued include the meeting Agenda, and full details of the Special Resolution regarding proposed changes to the *tScheme* Limited Company Constitution that are to be put to a vote of the Members in general meeting; and also a voting Proxy Form for use by Members unable to attend the meeting in person.

Forthcoming Members' delegate meetings

*Profiles & Processes Committee - 20th May (to be confirmed)

The target for the next meeting will be to agree the latest version of the Identity Services Profile, with a view to recommending to the board the release of Issue 2.0

**NB: Full details of all tScheme committee and expert working group terms of reference, including current member participation, can be found in the members' area of the website.*
For a copy of this document, please click here.

Thank you for your continuing support for *tScheme*.

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