

South West Observatory Network

# CLG - Supporting Local Information Systems

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**7 March 2008, Bournemouth**

**Today's Theme:** exploring information needs and how these are being met – either work that has been undertaken or systems and **services** put in place to meet these needs.

- What is the context (drivers) for the use of local information?
- What are Local Information Systems (LIS)?
- What is the current picture of LIS?
- What support activities are CLG providing for the development of LIS?
- What would you like us to do for you?

## Context (Drivers) for Local Information

- CLG - to support LAs to develop their own LIS, not to prescribe!
- Local Government White Paper 2006**
- Information Management Programme**
- Work in partnership with Audit Commission, Local Government Association and IDeA



## Context (Drivers) for Local Information

- To encourage LIS to support **Local Area Agreements**
- To encourage delivery of the **Sub-National Review**
- new **Local Authority Economic Development Duty** (as outlined in the Sub National Review)



<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/550738>



[http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/media/9/5/subnational\\_econ\\_review170707.pdf](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/media/9/5/subnational_econ_review170707.pdf)



<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/indicatorsdefinitions>

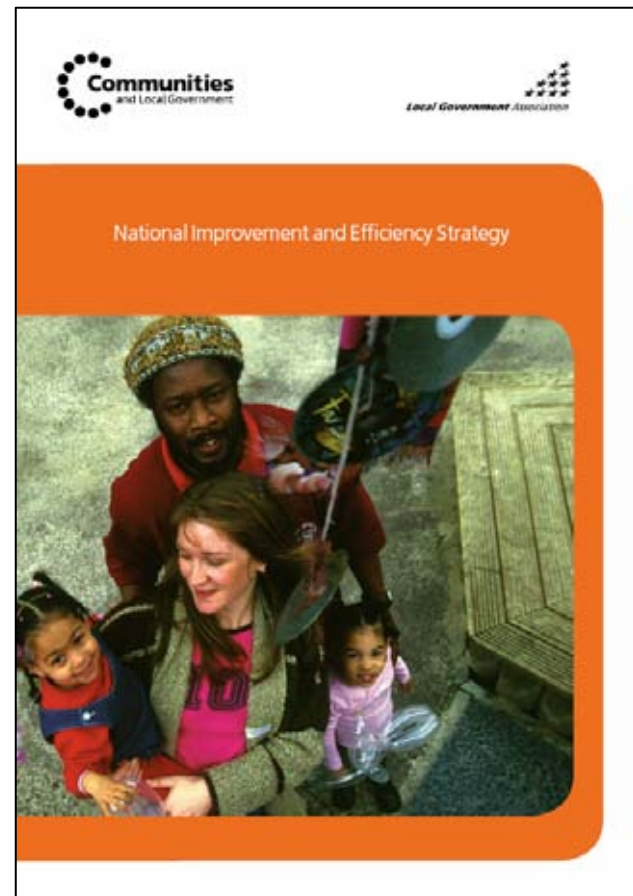
## Context (Drivers) for Local Information

### National Improvement and Efficiency Strategy (Prospectus due out April 2008)

- Supports improvement of **analytical skills and capacity/capability** in the use of information and data through the RIEPs
- Encourage development of LIS to enable better **joint partnership working** and efficient **service delivery** which are necessary to improve neighbourhood renewal **leadership and capacity**.

#### Role of RIEPs:

- Communication channel
- Coordinate GOs, Regional Assemblies, Regional Development Agencies and ONS Regional Statisticians
- work with regional infrastructure bodies which currently provide analytical support to LAs and LSPS as well as link up with current Regional and Local Intelligence networks



## Local Information System

“[LIS may include] performance data and contextual information that may be collected at a national level or at a local level (e.g. demographic, environmental economic or attitudinal data). Local information is used by one or more local public service bodies to measure performance, identify priorities for improvement, set targets and inform local citizens about the performance of their local service..”

- **LIS: A review of their role, characteristics and benefits (March 2007)**

*Local Information Systems:  
A review of their role, characteristics  
and benefits*

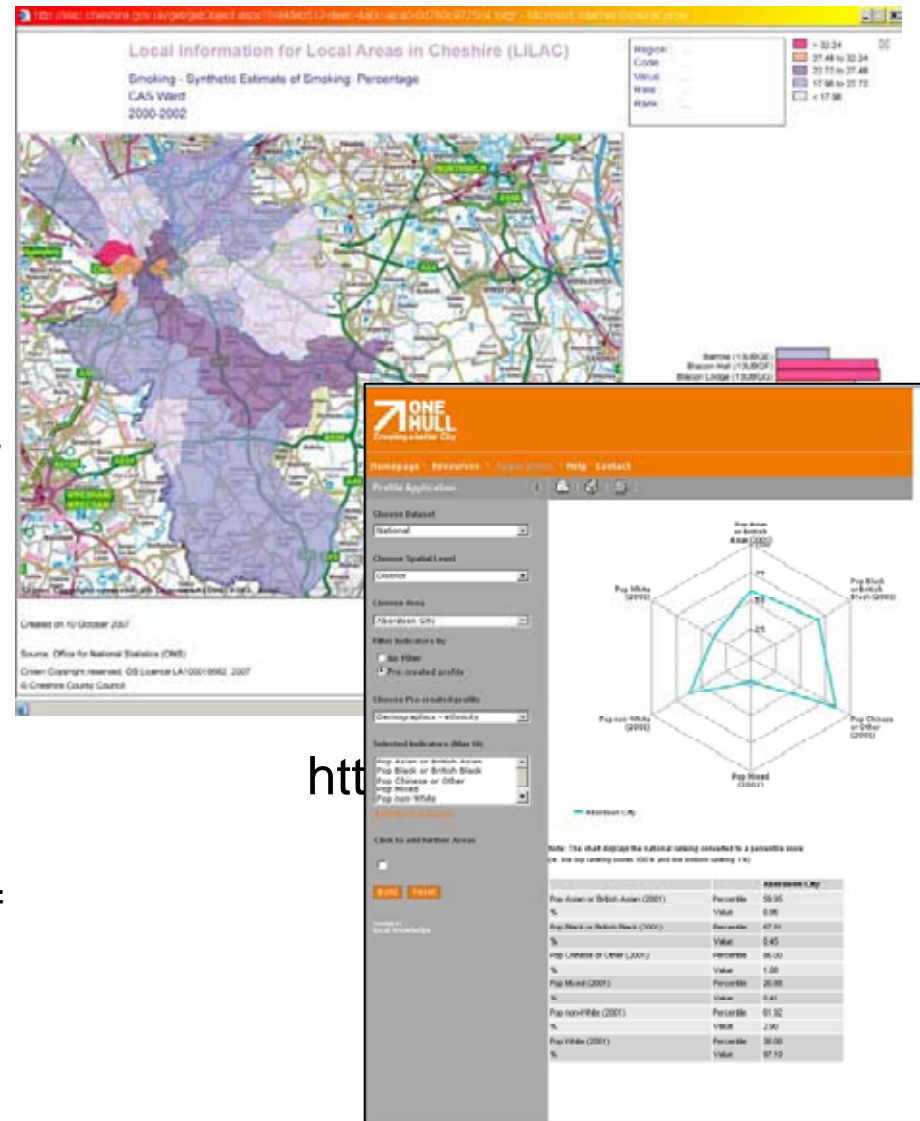
Paul Foley, Ximena Alfonso  
and Ian Wiseman  
IECRC

March 2007  
Department for Communities and Local Government

LIS are web based systems that collate and analyse data relating to regeneration at a local level

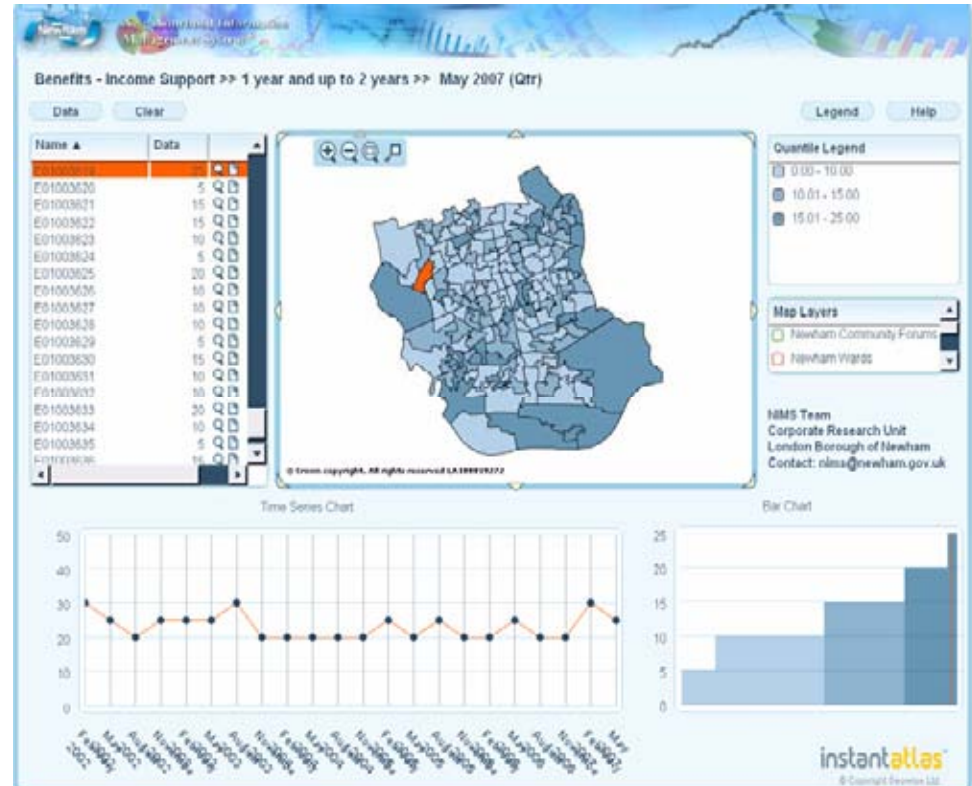
## Key characteristics

- Frequently brings together data from a **range of local partners**
- Often **more up-to-date** and/or at a **finer geography** than national sources
- Hold a range of **socio-economic data** and possibly some **performance management** data
- Informs **strategy development** and **performance monitoring** locally though could do more to enhance all stages of policy development



http

- Approx. 72 systems across England
- All have some form of **GIS capability**
- Covers range of spatial levels including neighbourhood
- Inform understanding of 'place' and strategy development
- LIS network at <http://www.esd.org.uk/esdtoolkit/>



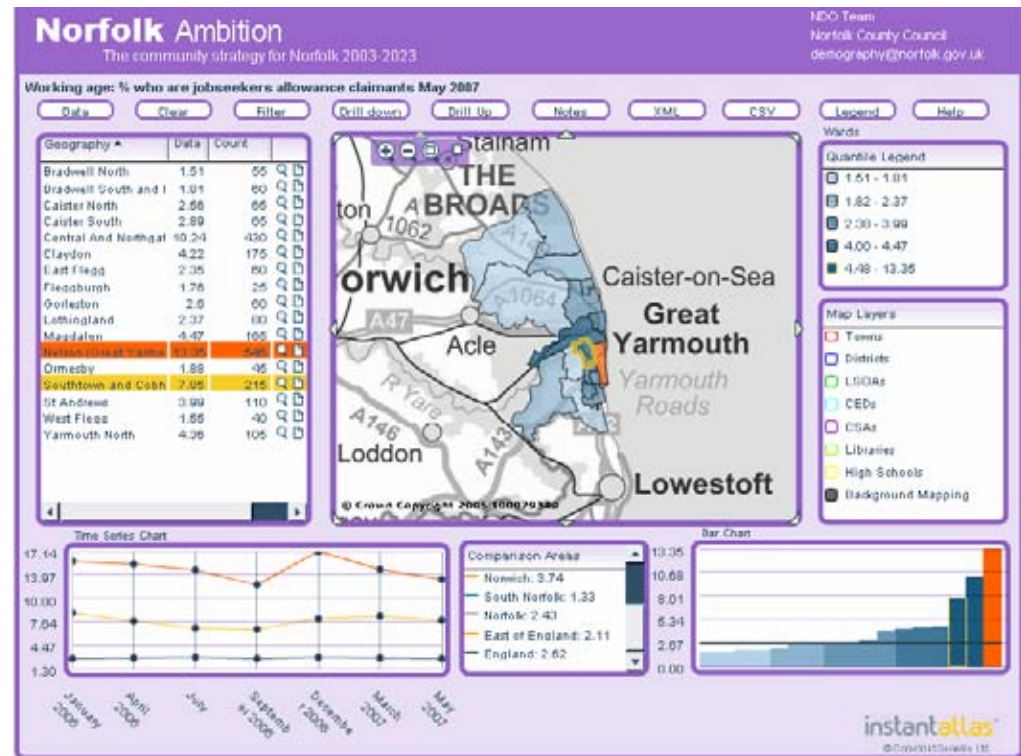
## What is the current picture of LIS?

- **72 systems** identified across England which meet the definition for a fully functional LIS
- (previously, 69 systems in March 07)
  - 11 new systems
  - 8 major revisions
  - 6 Consolidation
- Average running costs was **£58,000** per annum (similar to 2006)
- **58 hours a month** (avg) staff time spent obtaining, formatting, validating data from national and local sources
- **18 systems** have the capability to automatically **download data via XML tags** (10 systems in 2006).
- Main barriers to the data gap are **confidentiality and cost**

## What is the current picture of LIS?

### LIS and PMS (Performance Management Systems)\*

- 83 % reported that their LA / LSP **have** a PMS
- 23 % reported that their LIS have **links** with their LA/LSP's PMS
- 62 % LIS managers reported **duplication** in data collection or analysis with PMS colleagues
- More than 2/3 of respondents reported plans to better **co-ordinate** LIS with PMS
- 84% expect their system to be used more for setting **goals** and **performance** monitoring in the future



\*PMS frequently record narrow indicators at district or borough level, while LIS collect more general statistics usually at a finer level of granularity that could provide contextual information

# What is the current picture of LIS?

Region	Systems	Not networking %
North West	11	45
Greater London	8	38
Yorkshire and the Humber	8	38
West Midlands	10	30
South East	7	29
<b>South West</b>	13	8
East Midlands	4	0
Eastern	5	0
North East	6	0
<b>Total</b>	72	

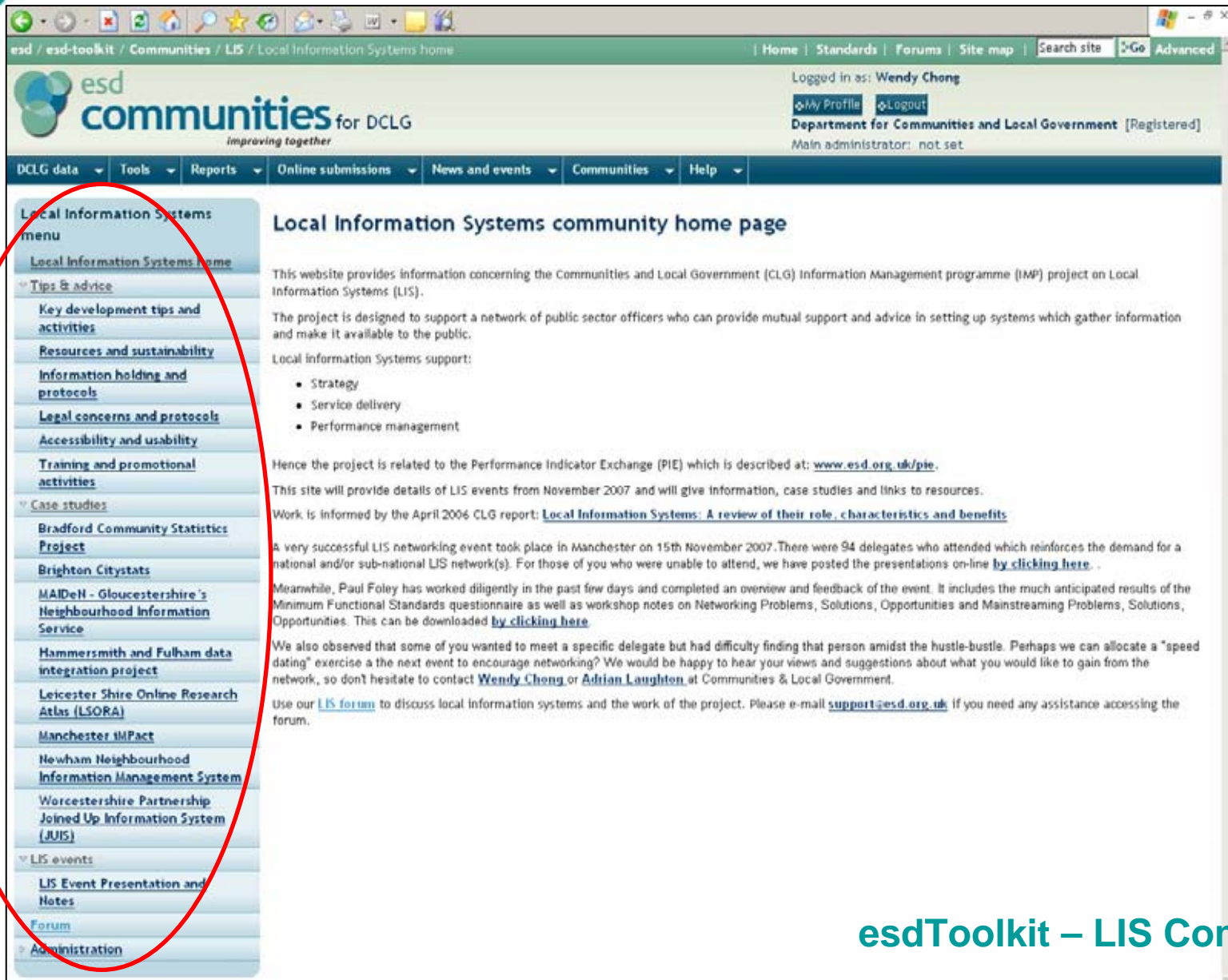
## Networking in the **South West**

- SW is a good example of networking best practise
- 13 LIS ÷ 7 sub-regions with majority actively networking (i.e. this event!)
- Established 6 thematic modules
  - (environment, planning, health...)
- Strong leadership recognised value of networking

# What support activities are CLG providing for the development of LIS?

- **LIS Network** has been developed (primarily for managers of LIS but open to all with an interest). Bi-annual meetings, most recently in Manchester, Nov 07.
- **Community of Practice, on-line forum** hosted by IDEA esdToolkit  
<http://www.esd.org.uk/esdtoolkit/Communities/LIS/ContentView.aspx?ContentType=Content-287>
- **Further research** will be commissioned to support LIS:
  - Mapping local information activity (drivers, users, supporters)
  - Cost / Benefit analysis (possibly, links to pms)
  - Visualisation tools to display social stats
  - Working through the National Improvement and Efficiency Strategy (**NIES**) to improve analytical capacity and skills
- Working with **Data Interchange Hub** to link local authorities in data sharing aspect
- **Working with ONS** to enable automated updating of datasets from Neighbourhood Statistics to LIS

# What support activities are CLG providing for the development of LIS?



esd / esd-toolkit / Communities / LIS / Local Information Systems home

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 Department for Communities and Local Government [Registered]  
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## Local Information Systems community home page

This website provides information concerning the Communities and Local Government (CLG) Information Management programme (IMP) project on Local Information Systems (LIS).

The project is designed to support a network of public sector officers who can provide mutual support and advice in setting up systems which gather information and make it available to the public.

Local Information Systems support:

- Strategy
- Service delivery
- Performance management

Hence the project is related to the Performance Indicator Exchange (PIE) which is described at: [www.esd.org.uk/pie](http://www.esd.org.uk/pie).

This site will provide details of LIS events from November 2007 and will give information, case studies and links to resources.

Work is informed by the April 2006 CLG report: [Local Information Systems: A review of their role, characteristics and benefits](#)

A very successful LIS networking event took place in Manchester on 15th November 2007. There were 94 delegates who attended which reinforces the demand for a national and/or sub-national LIS network(s). For those of you who were unable to attend, we have posted the presentations on-line [by clicking here](#).

Meanwhile, Paul Foley has worked diligently in the past few days and completed an overview and feedback of the event. It includes the much anticipated results of the Minimum Functional Standards questionnaire as well as workshop notes on Networking Problems, Solutions, Opportunities and Mainstreaming Problems, Solutions, Opportunities. This can be downloaded [by clicking here](#).

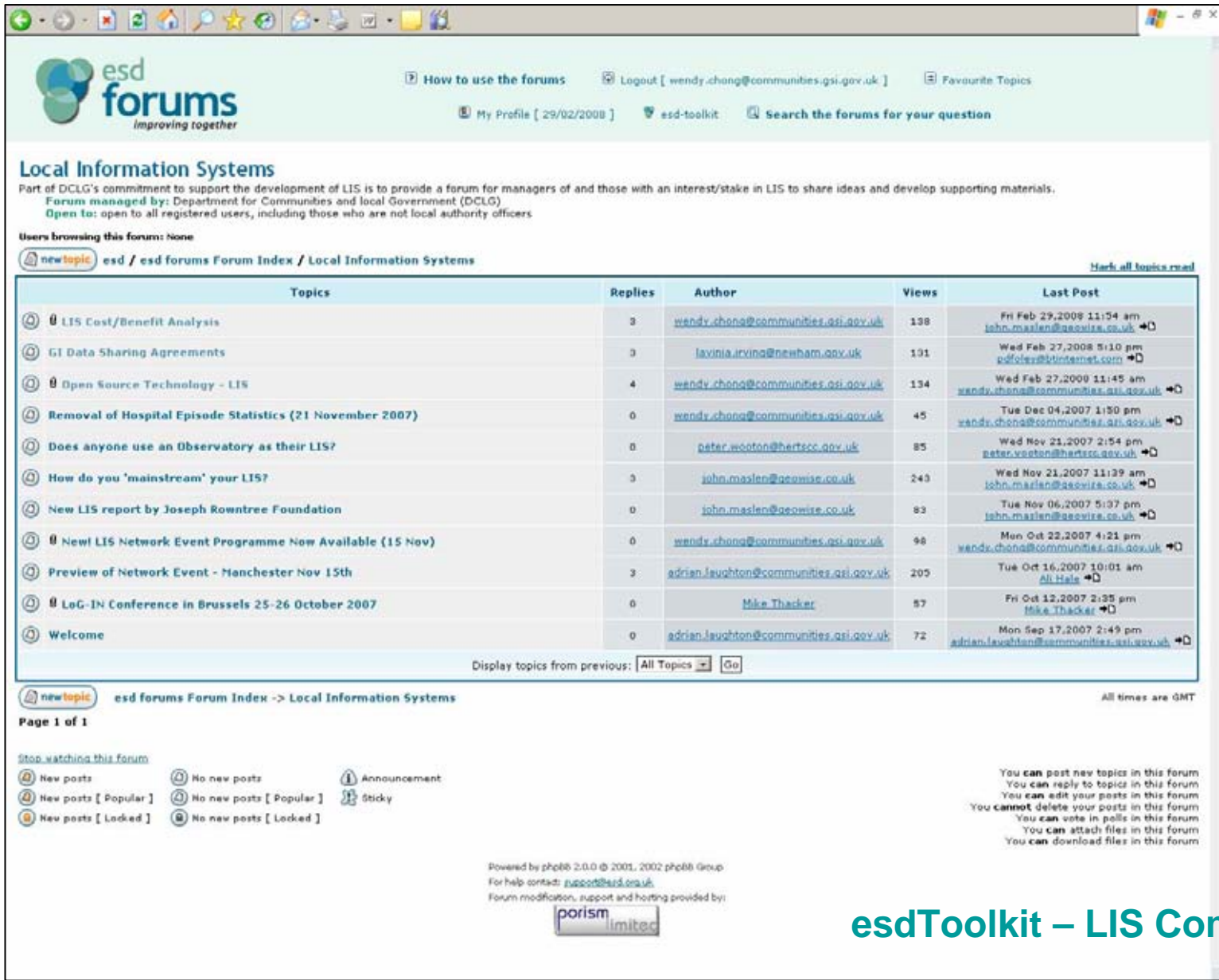
We also observed that some of you wanted to meet a specific delegate but had difficulty finding that person amidst the hustle-bustle. Perhaps we can allocate a "speed dating" exercise at the next event to encourage networking? We would be happy to hear your views and suggestions about what you would like to gain from the network, so don't hesitate to contact [Wendy Chong](#) or [Adrian Laughton](#) at Communities & Local Government.

Use our [LIS forum](#) to discuss local information systems and the work of the project. Please e-mail [support@esd.org.uk](mailto:support@esd.org.uk) if you need any assistance accessing the forum.

**Local Information Systems menu**

- Local Information Systems home
- Tips & advice
  - Key development tips and activities
  - Resources and sustainability
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  - Legal concerns and protocols
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  - Training and promotional activities
- Case studies
  - Bradford Community Statistics Project
  - Brighton Citystats
  - MAIDeN - Gloucestershire's Neighbourhood Information Service
  - Hammersmith and Fulham data integration project
  - Leicester Shire Online Research Atlas (LSORA)
  - Manchester IMPact
  - Newham Neighbourhood Information Management System
  - Worcestershire Partnership Joined Up Information System (JUIS)
- LIS events
  - LIS Event Presentation and Notes
  - Forum
  - Administration

# What support activities are CLG providing for the development of LIS?



**esd forums**  
improving together

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## Local Information Systems

Part of DCLG's commitment to support the development of LIS is to provide a forum for managers of and those with an interest/stake in LIS to share ideas and develop supporting materials.  
 Forum managed by: Department for Communities and local Government (DCLG)  
 Open to: open to all registered users, including those who are not local authority officers

Users browsing this forum: None

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Topics	Replies	Author	Views	Last Post
<a href="#">LIS Cost/Benefit Analysis</a>	3	<a href="#">wendy.chong@communities.gsi.gov.uk</a>	138	Fri Feb 29, 2008 11:54 am <a href="#">john.maslen@geowise.co.uk</a>
<a href="#">GI Data Sharing Agreements</a>	3	<a href="#">lavinia.irving@newham.gov.uk</a>	131	Wed Feb 27, 2008 5:10 pm <a href="#">p.dolez@btinternet.com</a>
<a href="#">Open Source Technology - LIS</a>	4	<a href="#">wendy.chong@communities.gsi.gov.uk</a>	134	Wed Feb 27, 2008 11:45 am <a href="#">wendy.chong@communities.gsi.gov.uk</a>
<a href="#">Removal of Hospital Episode Statistics (21 November 2007)</a>	0	<a href="#">wendy.chong@communities.gsi.gov.uk</a>	45	Tue Dec 04, 2007 1:50 pm <a href="#">wendy.chong@communities.gsi.gov.uk</a>
<a href="#">Does anyone use an Observatory as their LIS?</a>	0	<a href="#">peter.wootton@hertec.gov.uk</a>	85	Wed Nov 21, 2007 2:54 pm <a href="#">peter.wootton@hertec.gov.uk</a>
<a href="#">How do you 'mainstream' your LIS?</a>	3	<a href="#">john.maslen@geowise.co.uk</a>	243	Wed Nov 21, 2007 11:39 am <a href="#">john.maslen@geowise.co.uk</a>
<a href="#">New LIS report by Joseph Rowntree Foundation</a>	0	<a href="#">john.maslen@geowise.co.uk</a>	83	Tue Nov 06, 2007 5:37 pm <a href="#">john.maslen@geowise.co.uk</a>
<a href="#">New LIS Network Event Programme Now Available (15 Nov)</a>	0	<a href="#">wendy.chong@communities.gsi.gov.uk</a>	98	Mon Oct 22, 2007 4:21 pm <a href="#">wendy.chong@communities.gsi.gov.uk</a>
<a href="#">Preview of Network Event - Manchester Nov 15th</a>	3	<a href="#">adrian.laughton@communities.gsi.gov.uk</a>	205	Tue Oct 16, 2007 10:01 am <a href="#">Ali Hale</a>
<a href="#">LoG-IN Conference in Brussels 25-26 October 2007</a>	0	<a href="#">Mike Thacker</a>	57	Fri Oct 12, 2007 2:35 pm <a href="#">Mike Thacker</a>
<a href="#">Welcome</a>	0	<a href="#">adrian.laughton@communities.gsi.gov.uk</a>	72	Mon Sep 17, 2007 2:49 pm <a href="#">adrian.laughton@communities.gsi.gov.uk</a>

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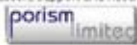
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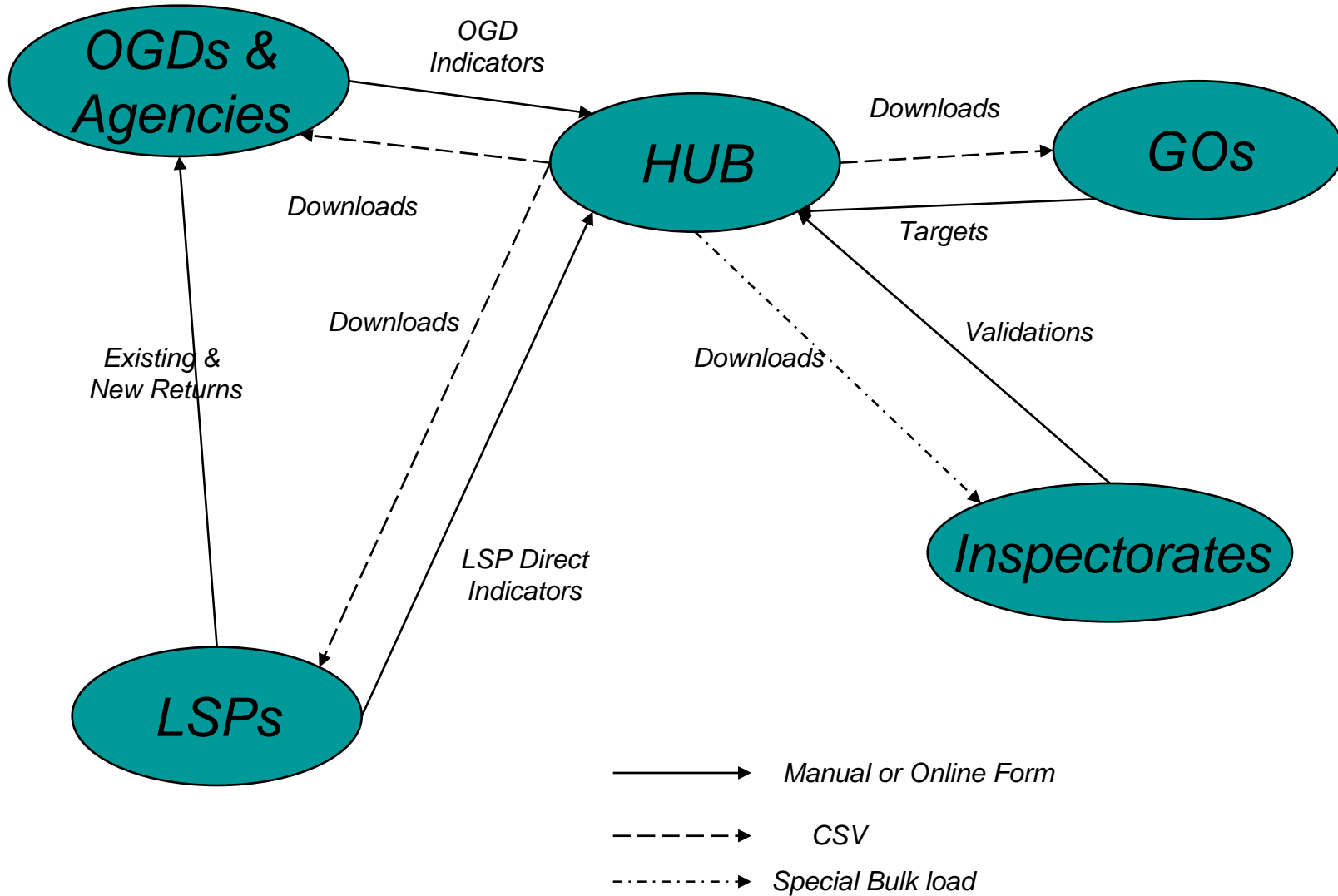
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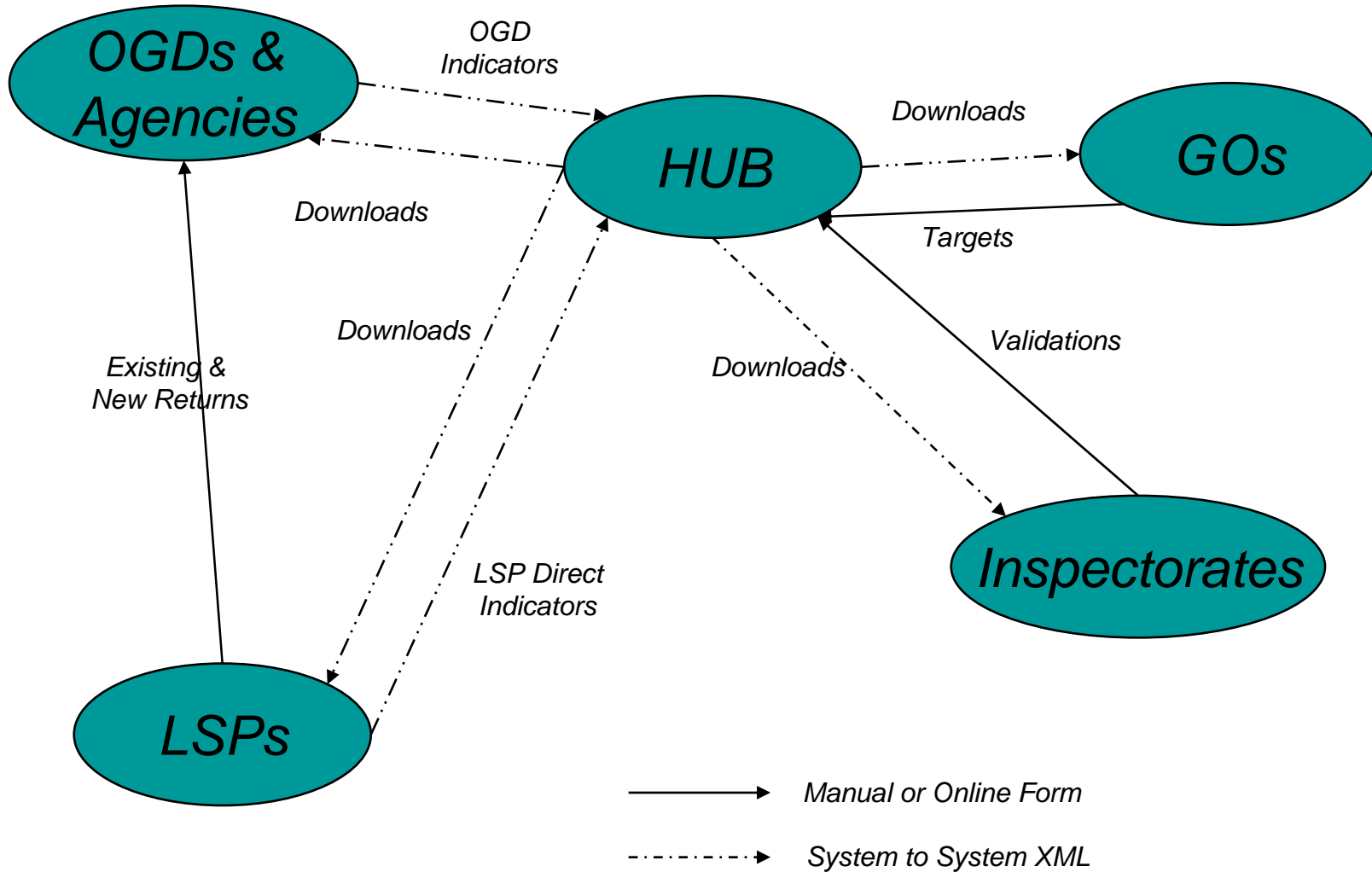
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# What support activities are CLG providing for the development of LIS?

- **CLG are committed to reduce administration burdens on authorities as well as overall target numbers**
- The Hub will be available to all partners as an interoperable, shared evidence base resource
  - RCU
  - GO
  - LSP
  - Audit Commission
  - Central & OGDs
- All National Indicator data will be held in one place and will be available to download
- An opportunity to introduce a more efficient approach to using and exchanging data
- Aim to achieve **Collect Once Use Numerous Times** (COUNT principle)
- Indicators will be regularly, automatically, updated as soon as new data is available





### Future Vision:

- Recommended that systems develop compatibility with the automatic XML data download process being introduced by central government in spring 2008
- Bi-Annual meetings should be hosted at different venues throughout the country (CLG, IDeA, LGAR?)

- What is the context (drivers) for the use of local information?
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- **What would you like us to do for you?**

LIS	<a href="mailto:Wendy.Chong@communities.gsi.gov.uk"><u>Wendy.Chong@communities.gsi.gov.uk</u></a>
	<a href="mailto:Adrian.Laughton@communities.gsi.gov.uk"><u>Adrian.Laughton@communities.gsi.gov.uk</u></a>
Data Interchange Hub	<a href="mailto:Adrian.Laughton@communities.gsi.gov.uk"><u>Adrian.Laughton@communities.gsi.gov.uk</u></a>
	<a href="mailto:Kathrina.Skinner@communities.gsi.gov.uk"><u>Kathrina.Skinner@communities.gsi.gov.uk</u></a>
	<a href="mailto:Julie.Vindis@communities.gsi.gov.uk"><u>Julie.Vindis@communities.gsi.gov.uk</u></a>
Floor Targets Interactive	<a href="mailto:Anothony.Campbell-Butler@communities.gsi.gov.uk"><u>Anothony.Campbell-Butler@communities.gsi.gov.uk</u></a>
Data4NR	<a href="mailto:Tajbee.Ahmed@communities.gsi.gov.uk"><u>Tajbee.Ahmed@communities.gsi.gov.uk</u></a>
LAA Library	<a href="mailto:Michael.Macauley@idea.gov.uk"><u>Michael.Macauley@idea.gov.uk</u></a>
Neighbourhood Statistics	<a href="http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/"><u>http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/</u></a>