



OPINION PIECE

PSN - A SUPPLIERS JOURNEY

COMPLIANCE IN “PUBLIC SERVICES NETWORK” (PSN)
DELIVERS SIGNIFICANT BUSINESS FLEXIBILITY AND COST
SAVINGS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The PSN’s three dimensional nature incorporates a vision, a programme and a set of standards. This has generated a lot of debate over the years. This paper aims to show that compliance is a key requirement before achieving PSN savings and benefits. But more importantly it attempts to put compliance in context and address how the PSN framework helps Local Government to achieve economies of scale and business flexibility.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT



THE TRUST MODEL

PSN customers and suppliers have made significant investments in time and money to build the PSN community. The PSN trust model acts as a foundation that facilitates data sharing across the various groups such as Health, Police Local and Central Government. This infrastructure ensures information can be securely and easily accessed by Public Sector providers, eliminating high costs and inefficiencies of multiple, incompatible networks.

PSN Trust Model

PSN is built on a common and shared understanding of risk across Public Sector organisations, which is reflected in the trust model. Achieving PSN compliance enables data sharing and consumption of shared services over PSN.



“As the first authority in Scotland to build to PSN standards, we look forward to offering the potential for other Public Sector bodies to utilise the framework... We have future proofed our network and the resilience and integrity it offers so that we can take advantage of future technologies as they emerge and embrace new working practices, enabling us to become more efficient and make further cash savings in the future.”

ALAN CRUICKSHANK,
INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGER FOR EAST LOTHIAN COUNCIL'S

ADVANTAGES OF PSN

VIBRANT MARKET PLACE: This community can deliver a dynamic market place in which suppliers can compete to provide great solutions. The PSN provides a unified catalogue of services reducing procurement costs and speeding up the buying process.

COLLABORATIVE PROCUREMENT: PSN aims to deliver a competitive ICT market place, where connectivity and services can be bought and deployed with the aim of delivering best value for the customer.

SECURE: The PSN has created a 'trust' environment, using common standards, to enable the exchange of information without undue risk.

UNITED: By collectively converging on to the PSN, public service providers can exploit both telecommunications and business services across locations and organisational boundaries more cost effectively, innovatively and securely.

HARNESSING CORPORATE BUYING POWER: By working together and adopting common standards for procuring, operating and sharing services the Public Sector can drive a more competitive and innovative market. The Public Sector can harness its corporate buying power to reduce the cost of telecommunications and attain commodity pricing for the services it needs to buy.

REGIONAL PSN PARTNERSHIPS: Regional PSN networks have provided an excellent vehicle for generating savings through aggregated procurement and initiating collaboration on shared service initiatives. The success of regional PSN partnerships is reliant on how they are set up and managed. Suppliers need to ensure that all partners on the framework receives the commercial benefits and provide best value across the life of the framework.

HOW UPDATA CAN HELP YOU ACHIEVE BENEFITS FROM 'PSN'

Updata recognises that a lot of work has gone into setting up the PSN and has delivered many benefits. However the programme still has a long way to go before further benefits can be experienced, such as increased collaboration between agencies and cost savings.

The task of meeting compliance standards has been daunting but in most cases the desire to future proof the network to comply with PSN standards has been a common theme. This reflects the fact that PSN compliance is not seen as a hindrance but a process that needs addressing in order to benefit from the next generation of services and cost savings.

The PSN framework can flex and adapt to diverse business needs where savings can be made. However we must take into consideration that financial benefits will vary depending on many factors.

Having recognised some of the perceived hurdles around compliance Updata works closely with clients to analyse and identify how the benefits of the PSN can be exploited through property transformation, multi-agency working and secure sharing of information.

Updata provides support during the deployment of the PSN network and through the life of the contract, so we can help clarify any concerns and discuss how Updata can support you in delivering a PSN compliant network

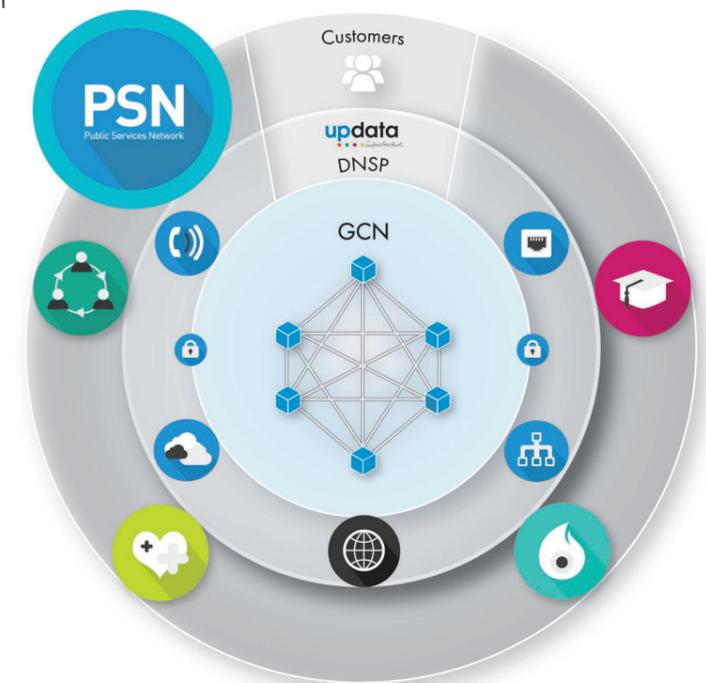
FIND OUT MORE
Speak to your Account Director to find out more about how we can help you build a secure network infrastructure.



“It was important that whoever we partnered with on this network was an accredited PSN provider. We were not building a PSN, but our network needed to be of PSN standard. So, no matter which direction network design took in healthcare, we had Updata who could offer both N3 connectivity and also the ability to transition to PSN, if the need arose”.

RICHARD MCCUE,
NETWORK AND SYSTEMS MANAGER FOR STAFFORDSHIRE AND SHROPSHIRE HEALTH INFORMATICS SERVICE (S&SHIS).

'A NETWORK OF NETWORKS'



WHY UPDATA?

Udata is widely recognised as a pioneer in the development and rollout of Public Sector networks, and has been an active supporter of the PSN programme since its inception. Udata's DNSP (Direct Network Service Provider) service provides secure, resilient Public Services network (PSN) access to the Government Conveyance Network (GCN) for Public Sector customers. As a DNSP, Udata complies with the Code of Interconnection (CoCo) required to provide services over the PSN.

Udata is a member of the PSNGB, the trade association for any organisation or individual that provides PSN services to the Public Sector, and is at the forefront of the collaboration between Industry and Public Sector to develop and implement standards, especially around security.

Udata supports business growth by providing leading edge solutions to complex problems and delivering greater resilience and security.

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“The award of the contract for our regional PSN marks a significant step towards the continued transformation of public services in Cheshire and Merseyside. This will enable us all to reduce costs and wasteful duplication, whilst at the same time open up new ways of working more efficiently and collaboratively.”

Councillor Mike Jones, Leader of Cheshire West and Chester Council, said “CWaC sees PSN as a key building block in the next phase of Public Sector transformation and the closer working ties between the Council and its partners.”

COUNCILLOR DAVID BROWN,
DEPUTY LEADER FOR CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL AND STRATEGIC
COMMUNITIES

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“By replacing the bandwidth of the Council's corporate sites with Udata's WAN solution, we are saving in the region of £600,000 per year which will mean a reduction in our annual connectivity bill of over 40 per cent... As Udata has strong knowledge of PSN and is an accredited PSN provider, we will be able to work with the team in the future to make sure that all our network operations continue to adhere to PSN regulations”
“The PSN will be invaluable in enabling an efficient ‘joined-up’ service between healthcare and social service organisations.”

CHARLIE ANDERSON,
HEAD OF ICT FOR FIFE COUNCIL'S

FIND OUT MORE

For Insights into the future of supplying
PSN to the Public Sector call us on:
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