

UK MAN Managers Group

Notes of Meeting held on 13 April 2005 at ULCC

Present:

Dave Vinograd (Convenor)	
Mick Kahn (Secretary)	London Metropolitan Network
Paul Kentish	Kentish MAN
Tim Robinson	NetNorthWest
Mike Byrne	LeNSE
Ed Carter	YHMAN
David Hayling	Kentish MAN
Chris Cheney	“EastNet”
Mike Whitehead	FaTMAN
Kit Powell	SWERN
Roger Williams	WNL
Jason Bain	NorMAN
Joe Burns	NIRAN
John Linn	AbMAN
George Howat	EaStMAN
Jim Hendry	MidMAN
Jem Taylor	UHI Network
Linda McCormick	ClydeNET
John Cheesbrough	EMMAN
Steve Percival	UKERNA (item 4 only)
Denis Russell	UKERNA (item 4 only)
Malcolm Teague	UKERNA (item 5 only)

Apologies were received from:

Colin Tennant	MidMAN
Andy Mason	SWERN
Ian Griffiths	EMMAN
Phil Brady	North Wales MAN

1 Notes of Previous meeting

1.1 Accuracy

There were no corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 January 2005.

1.2 Annual Report

The report is on the web at <http://www.lmn.net.uk/uk-mans/report-2004.pdf>

2 Report from contract changes team

2.1 Development effort changes

The contract team had discussed the changes with UKERNA on two occasions. Whilst the team was happy with the intent of the changes, there had been serious reservations with some of the wording. The team reluctantly agreed to the wording as a number of MANs needed to implement the contract change in order to be able to employ new staff.

Surprise was expressed that paragraph 2.5 could include developing relationships outside the public sector and it was noted that MANs should be cautious as to how the funds were used.

2.2 SuperJANET5 changes

Mike Byrne, Dave Vinograd and Mick Kahn reported that the contract team had held the first meeting with UKERNA, which covered general principals in the areas in the document previously circulated by UKERNA.

UKERNA will be requesting all RNOs to give indicative figures for providing 24x7 callout. Scottish MANs indicated that their communities did not consider there to be a requirement for this. UKERNA will be asked to use precise rather than general questions so that the correlated information is more useful.

The “at risk” period will be renamed and UKERNA will also solicit views on changing the timing and relaxing the requirements to use specified periods.

UKERNA will wish to locate additional equipment on MANs to assist with end-to-end monitoring.

Discussion of provision of additional services will be considered at a future contract change meeting.

The next round of negotiations will be held on Monday 18 April 2005.

3 Report from the SLA negotiation team

Paul Kentish and Jason Bain reported that two meetings on SLA negotiation had been held. The UK MMG representatives were in agreement with UKERNA on all issues.

The JISC was proposing changes in the following areas

- The term “at risk” will be removed
- Some tightening of the PIs is being considered, but the same concerns as last year apply where PIs are not currently being met
- A better way of monitoring multiple connections is being worked on
- Consideration is being given as to how latency is measured. The current data collected doesn't allow measurement of the PI in the current SLA

4 UKERNA issues

4.1 *Proposals for reporting on multiple connections*

This was being covered in the SLA negotiations along the lines of the paper circulated after the last meeting on which Steve Percival had received no specific comments. It is likely to be resolved in this SLA negotiation round.

4.2 *Fibre rating*

Denis Russell reported that there had been no progress regarding UKERNA seeking legal advice on behalf of the community. It was noted that Vtesse were challenging the charges to BT and Kingston in Europe.

4.3 *Use of both SuperJANET entry points*

Denis Russell had circulated information on SuperJANET5 entry points.

4.4 *Publicity brochure*

Denis Russell reported that progress had been slow and that he would be chasing the last two or three RNOs for input.

4.5 *SuperJANET5 upgrade plans*

Denis Russell reported that proposals had been received from all English RNOs. UKERNA will respond to RNOs by the end of April.

Funding for Scotland had been agreed and Denis would be requesting proposals.

Discussions in Wales and Northern Ireland were continuing.

UKERNA will be holding a RNO SuperJANET5 meeting at RUSI in London on Wednesday 4 May.

4.6 *Monitoring Equipment*

It was noted that the netsight machines did not power down and up gracefully in the event of power failure. RNOs believe that any proposed equipment should recover without intervention in this situation. Mick Kahn will write to UKERNA.

Action: Mick Kahn

5 MH-NHS connectivity

Malcolm Teague, the NHS-HE Co-ordinator based at UKERNA, gave a presentation on the work of the NHS-HE connectivity project. A copy of the presentation will be placed on the UK MMG web site at <http://www.lmn.net.uk/uk-mans/malcolm-teague-apr05.htm>.

He drew attention to the next meeting of the NHS-HE Forum at UCL on 12 May. It will be an open meeting.

Tim Robinson agreed to liaise between the NHS-FE Forum and UK MMG.

6 Report from JDAG

Mike Byrne, Jason Bain and Ed Carter reported that JDAG had not met at Networkshop as planned.

Mike Byrne had circulated the draft notes of the first meeting in November.

The Group was concerned about the slow progress of JDAG and Jason Bain will contact UKERNA.

Action: Jason Bain

The relationship between JDAG and the JCN Development Group was discussed.

David Hayling had volunteered to be on the Performance Monitoring Group. He had not been able to attend the first meeting due to short notice, but will circulate the minutes when he receives them.

7 Liaison with Chairs of MANs Group

There had been no issues that needed the involvement of the Chairs of MANs Group since the last meeting.

8 Liaison with UCISA NG

Christine Cooper had taken over as chair of UCISA NG. The new group did not have any common membership with UK MMG. Tim Robinson offered to join UCISA NG to provide liaison.

9 Dates of future meetings

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 29 June 2005 in Inverness. The following meeting will be held on Tuesday 25 October 2005 in London.

10 Any other business

Phil Brady will be retiring in July so will be leaving UK MMG. Mike Byrne was appointed as Deputy Convenor in his place.

Mick Kahn will be leaving LMN at the end of April. Dave Vinograd thanked him for all his work for UK MMG since it was set up. A new secretary will be appointed at the next meeting. George Howat agreed to take the minutes in Inverness.

Kit Powell reported that he was having difficulty with Nominet renewing swern.net.uk as he didn't have an AS number. Other RNOs had had no problems.