Contract for the Provision of Non-Code User Pays Services Contract Change



Agenda

- Current position re governance
- Review of issues
- Review of options



Summary of Current Position

- Separate governance arrangements for the Terms and Conditions and the Service Schedules proposed
- Terms and Conditions
 - Process to support change to terms and conditions drafted.
 - 100% agreement required for changes to Ts & Cs to be made
 - Agreement in principle but still subject to further review
- Service Schedules
 - Proposals discussed at recent meeting
 - Opinions differ on extent of xoserve participation



Progress Update

- xoserve have reviewed how the service schedules could be redrafted to ensure:
 - the contract remains a workable document for all parties given the governance proposals.
 - xoserve is not exposed to increased and/or unacceptable risk if it was not able to vote on any changes



Summary Position

- Following detailed review and consultation with our legal team and our Board of Directors the conclusions are:
- Ts & Cs and Services schedules are inextricably linked
 - It is not possible to redefine the schedules such that they are still meaningful, or such that changes can be made without implications for the Ts & Cs.
- Without the right to vote on proposals xoserve could be exposed to unacceptable levels of risk.
 - Financial risk eg funding of development costs
 - Business risk eg system security, prioritisation conflicts
 - Pricing basis does not enable pricing for increased risk



Alternative Proposals

- "One-size" change process for the entire Contract (conditions and service schedules)
- Changes to the Contract effective where 100% agreement from the parties
- Contract to have a termination date of [31 March 2010]
 - Generally, contracts without a right to terminate are not favoured under the Competition Act
 - User Pays will look different in 2, 5, 10 years
 - A right to terminate on notice leads to uncertainty (unsure when it could occur)
 - A fixed date leads to certainty
 - Intention would be to either use or modify the existing contract as required
- ACS supports concept of "ad hoc" services, so mechanism exists to meet individual (or sub-set of user community) requirements



Alternative Proposals

2

- Contract to have a termination date [31 March 2010]
- No ability to change by any party.
 - Defers the problem
 - Not desirable for any party to the contract
- Other Thoughts?
 - Better understanding of perceived issues / risks if xoserve have a vote might help with developing proposals
 - Can the combined thoughts of our lawyers help?



Contract for the Provision of Non-Code User Pays Services – next steps

- xoserve to conclude other outstanding contract points with relevant parties
- xoserve would welcome comments on the suggested way forward from Customers by 2 September

