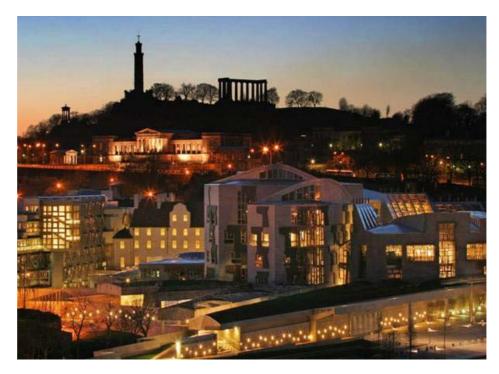






### **IT in the Scottish Parliament**



#### Alan Balharrie Head of Business Information Technology Office



### **IT in the Scottish Parliament**

- Scottish Parliament Overview
- Business Information Technology Office
- Stakeholder Services
- Parliamentary Applications
- Parliamentary Applications The Future
- Initiatives
- Challenges
- Q&A
- Tour



### **The Scottish Parliament - Overview**

 Scottish Parliament *reconvened* 12 May 1999

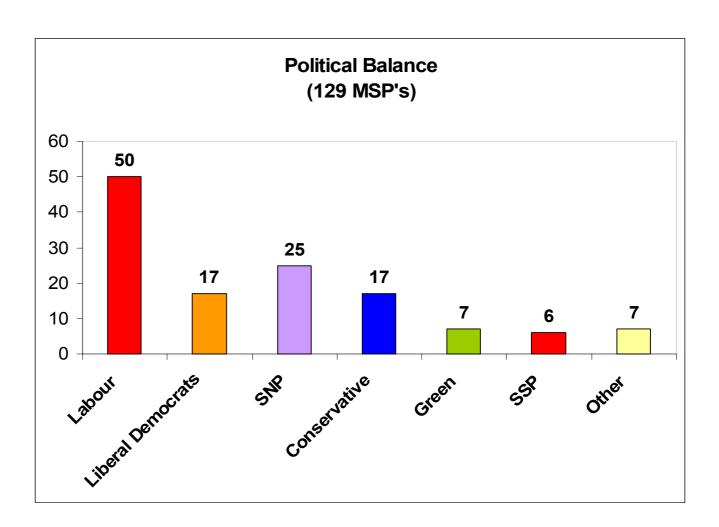
### Devolved Parliament

- Legislative powers for devolved matters
- Reserved matters remain with Westminster
- Scrutinise the Executive
- Power to alter rate of tax
- 129 Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSP's)
  - 73 Constituencies, 56 Regional





### **The Scottish Parliament - Overview**





### **The Scottish Parliament - Overview**

- Scottish Parliament Corporate Body (SPCB)
  - Legal body of 4 Members and the Presiding Officer
  - Appointed by Parliament
  - Chaired by Presiding Officer
  - Responsible for ensuring resources required to facilitate business of the Parliament are in place and well managed
  - Approximately 500 staff employed by the SPCB
  - Chief Executive is the Accountable Officer and answerable to the SPCB



# What is the purpose of the Scottish Parliament staffing organisation?

*"to support the Scottish Parliament in fulfilling its constitutional role as a representative and legislative body"* 

SPCB Management Plan





# How is the staffing organisation going to deliver its purpose?

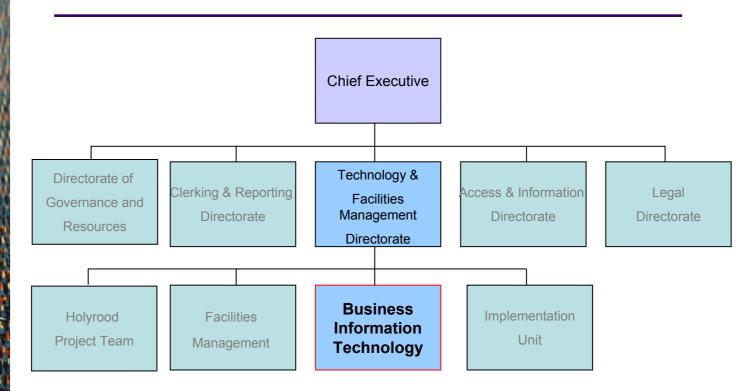
*"by providing professional advice, accommodation, environment and support services of the highest standards; and"* 

*"by facilitating engagement with people and organisations across Scotland"* 

SPCB Management Plan



### **Parliament Staff Organisation**





### What is the purpose of the BIT Office?

"To enable and support the business of the Scottish Parliament through effective and innovative delivery of technology services and solutions"



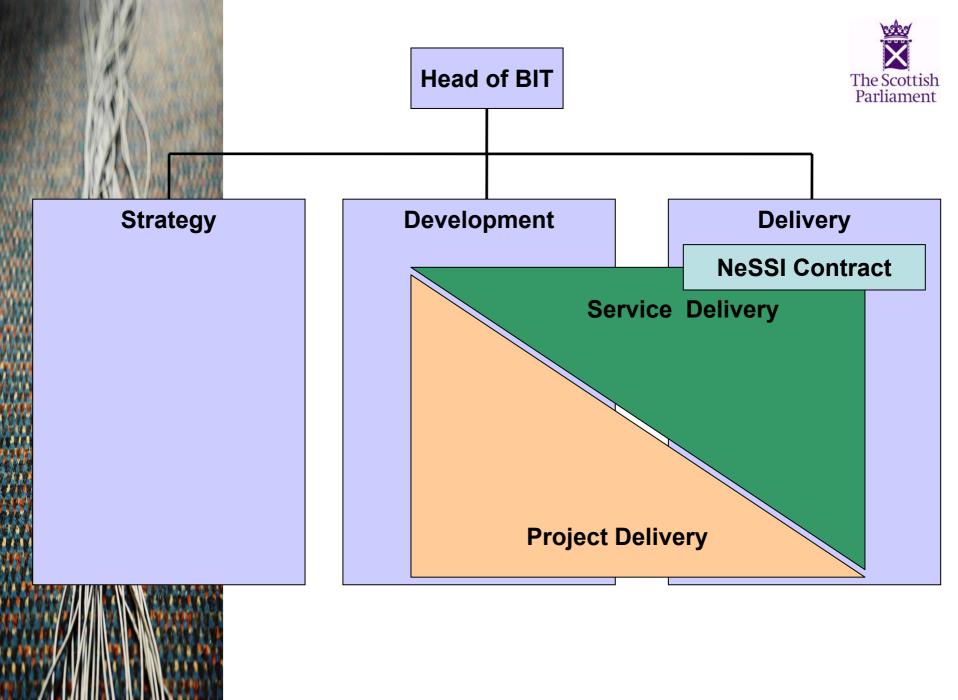
### What is the vision of the BIT Office?

"To be recognised by our stakeholders as a strategic partner, supplier of choice and centre of excellence and best practice"



### **BIT Strategic Priorities**

- Excellent Customer Service
- Aligned and Optimised Information Solutions
- Corporate Business Strategy
- Demonstrable Value
- High Quality IT Organisation





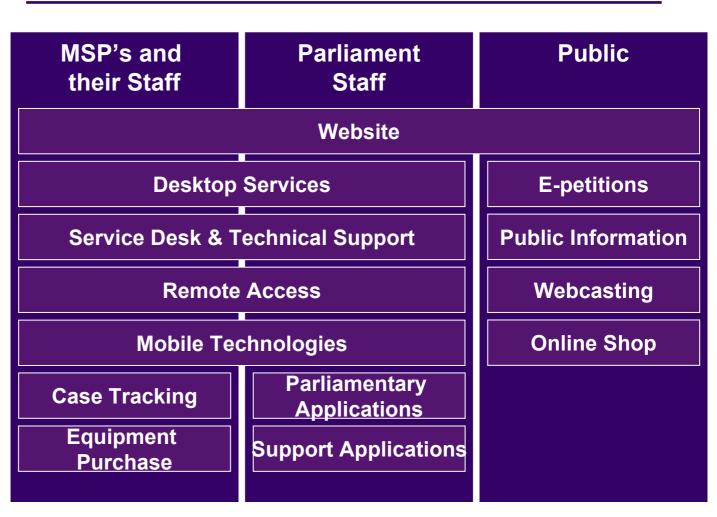
### **BIT Overview**

- Responsible for portfolio of approx 20
   projects
- Extensive service catalogue
- 1200 Network Accounts
- 2 sites in Edinburgh & 110 Local Offices
- 800 Holyrood and 300 local office workstations
- 50+ Servers
- Mobile devices (laptops, PDA's, etc)
- Predominantly Microsoft technologies
- Leading edge infrastructure





### **Stakeholder Services**





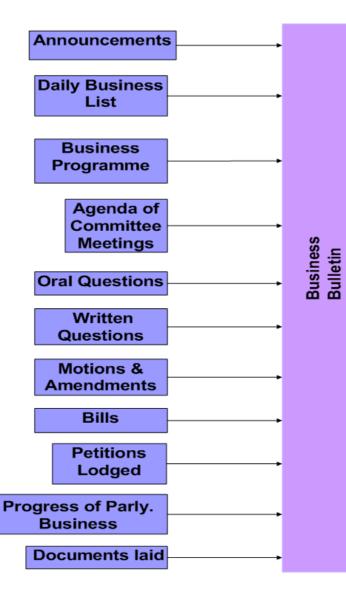


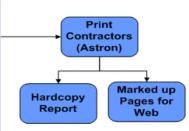
### **Parliamentary Applications**

- Business Bulletin
- Parliamentary Questions
- Motions & Amendments
- Official Report
- Electronic Voting



### **Business Bulletin**





- bulletin produced daily
- 11 Sections describing Parliamentary Business
- created by up to 7 separate
   Business Areas
- MS-Word Templates underpinned by VBA
- some data pulled from SQL Server DBs e.g. Motions
- required by the Business to produce this information for MSPs by 8 a.m.



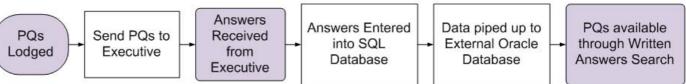
### Parliamentary Questions (PQs)



PREVIOUSLY...

- · Stored as individual Word Templates underpinned by VBA
- Written Answer metadata added to spreadsheet by Chamber Desk
- Published to the Website overnight in HTML
- Text Search only on Website via general site search

#### CURRENTLY ...



 Stored as individual records in SQL Server database through Access front-end

- All metadata available in database for generic & ad-hoc reporting
- Fully Integrated Search facility delivered over Website:
  - Unique PQ ID (S1Wxxxx, S2Wxxxx...)
  - Range of Written Answer Numbers
  - MSP, Party, Constituency / Region
  - Who provided Answer (if available)
- After 6 years there are now 58,233 PQs in System [as at 14/11/2005]



### **Motions & Amendments**



#### PREVIOUSLY ...

- Stored as individual Word Templates and individual MS-Access DBs
- Motion & Amendments metadata added to spreadsheet by Chamber Desk
- Published to the Website overnight in HTML
- Text Search only on Website via general site search

#### CURRENTLY ...



- Stored as individual records in SQL Server database
- All metadata available in database for generic & ad-hoc reporting
- Fully Integrated Search facility delivered over Website:
  - Unique Motion ID (S1Mxxxx, S2Mxxxx...)
  - Range of Motion Numbers
  - Lodging MSP, Part, Constituency / Region
  - Dates, Motion Supporters & Status
- After 6 years there are now 8984 Motions / Amendments in System





### **OR Template/Digital Audio**

#### PREVIOUSLY...

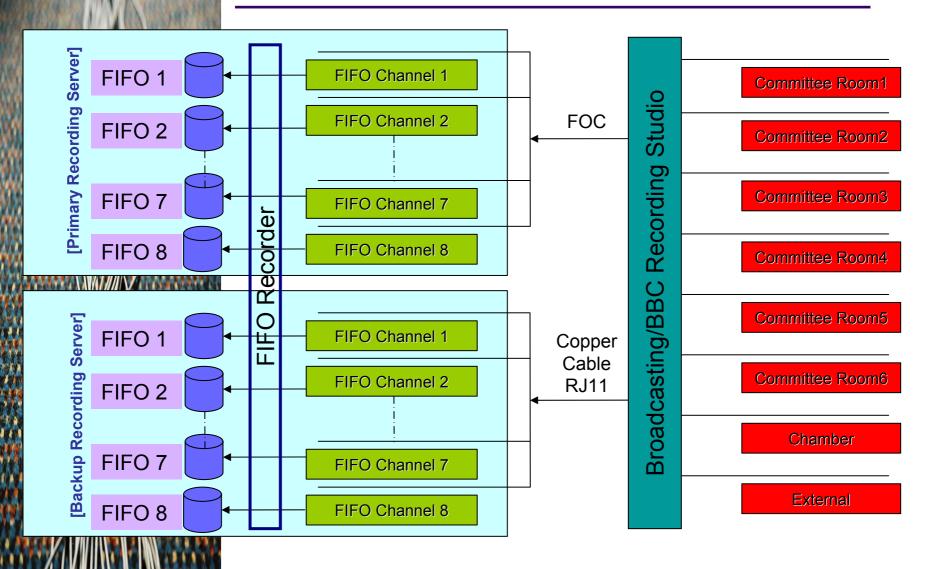
- Word Templates used to store data from Plenary and Committees
- Labour intensive Cassette Tape creation / distribution to Reporters
- Low Tech but reliable

#### CURRENTLY...

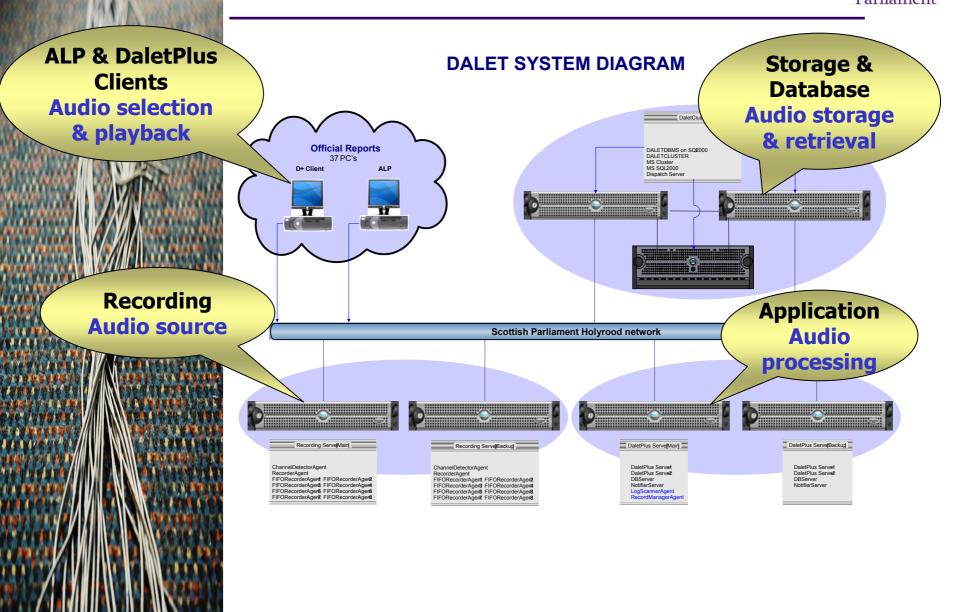
- Still Word Templates used to store data but integrated with Digital Audio System
- Digital Audio delivered directly to the desktop at the correct time-stamped position in readiness for Transcription
- Complex System to replicate stability / availability of previous system
- Multiple redundancy built-in to Software and Hardware design

### **Digital Audio System**





## Digital Audio – Architecture







### **Electronic Voting**

- MSPs use Unique IDs in **Smartcards**
- eVote in Chamber creates results file
- **Regular monitoring for file**
- Picked up by VoteAgent on **Network Share**

VoteAgent<sub>v1.02</sub> Scottish Parliament Look for vote files in: D:\Test\VoteAgent Target Directory Put processed vote files in: D:\Test\VoteAgent Target Directory\Processed Look for templates in: D:\Test\VoteAgent Template Directory Perform automatic vote processing every 30 seconds. Template Process

Back to Main Page

Manager

Now!

Agent® v1.02 - Control Pane

- **Dropped into SPP**
- Voting Report(s) sent to OR

The Scottish						
Parliament						
Voting Record for McConnell, Mr Jack						
Parliamentary Name	Vote Description	Date Of Vote	Vote	Result		
McConnell, Mr Jack	S2M-3411.2 Mr Brian Monteith: Report on Prioritisation of the Non-Executive Bill	26/10/2005 17:06:00	Not Voted	Defeated		
McConnell, Mr Jack	S2M-3411.1 Chris Ballance: Report on Prioritisation of the Non-Executive Bills U	26/10/2005 17:07:00	Not Voted	Defeated		
McConnell, Mr Jack	S2M-3411 Mr Duncan McNeil on behalf of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body	26/10/2005 17:09:00	Not Voted	Carried		
McConnell, Mr Jack	S2M-3440 Malcolm Chisholm: Equality Bill - UK Legislation—That the Parliament ag	26/10/2005 17:10:00	Not Voted	Carried		
McConnell, Mr Jack	S2M-3454 Ms Margaret Curran on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: Approval of S	26/10/2005 17:11:00	Not Voted	Carried		

Print Report



### Parliamentary Applications The Future

- Information Management Strategy
- Web delivery
- Legacy issues
- Business Process Re-engineering



### **Information Management Strategy**

#### Understand the issues

- Understand what our information assets are
- Understand what the main problems in accessing and managing data are
- Identify duplication of data and effort

#### How to move forward

- Single sources of trusted data
- Ownership of information
- Platforms & standards to allow this
- **Re-use our information** 
  - Leverage our information assets



### Web as a Delivery Mechanism

- Database Driven Content
- Content Management
   Content Subscription
   Mobile Device Support
- Web Services
- Web-casting
- e-Petitions

🕘 The Scottish Parliament - I	Homepage - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by The Scottish Parliament	
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Current Business  The Chamber Committees Official Report This week in the Scottish Parliament Vyhat's New Site Search Quick Search Advanced Search Advanced Search Quick Search	Health Committee nears evidence on smoking ban regulations         The Health Committee meets from 2pm today, when it will take evidence from the Deputy Minister for Health and Community Care, Lewise Macdonaid, on draft regulations relating to the ban on smoking in public places. The regulations lay down provisions on issues including which premises are covered by the ban, which are exempt, and the penalties for not adhering to the ban. The meeting is taking place in Committee Room 2, and can be watched on Holyrood.tv.         Related Links:       Health Committee 1 Health research briefings Smoking, Health and Social Care (Scotland) Bill Channel:	
holyrood.tv Recent News > E-democracy news > European Parliament President visits Holyrood > Bigger Festival of Politics in 2006 Petitions	Council Tax Abolition and Service Charge Introduction Bill         Image: Constraint of the Local Government and Transport Committee will today hear evidence on the Council Tax Abolition and Service Tax Introduction (Scotland) Bill from Tommy Sheridan, pictured, who introduced the Bill to Parliament. The Deputy Minister for Finance and Parliamentary Business, George Lyon, will also give evidence. The meeting begins at 2pm in Committee Room 1.         Related Links:       Local Government and Transport Committee IWatch on Holyrood.tv         Parliamentary Business.       Parliamentary Business.	
A	Finance Committee hears budget evidence	
e	<ul> <li>Tiretier</li> </ul>	





### Legacy Systems' Issues

- incomplete requirements\*
- lack of user involvement\*
- requirements and specifications keep changing\*
- processes developed in a hurry and unilaterally
- information not shared



### **Business Process Re-Engineering**

- working with customers to determine improvements
- programme for mapping of business processes
- using standard tool and methodology



### **Specific Initiatives**

### Proposed Web programme

- Technical considerations
- Customer-driven
- Information Management programme
- Technical Architecture Policy
- Compliance with International Standards
  - Introducing Best Practice
- e-Democracy



### **Current Challenges**

- Demanding Customers
- Portfolio Management
- Remote access
- Workload (Services & Projects)
- New Structure
- Recruitment



### **Future Challenges**

- Parliamentary Data Strategy
- Integrated Corporate Systems
- Technical Architecture
- Security Architecture
- Excellent Customer Service
- Continual Improvement
- Staff Development
- Demonstrable value





### IT in the Scottish Parliament (Review)

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- ✓ Parliamentary Applications The Future
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### **Thank You**

## Questions & Discussion