

**Frequently Asked Questions: UK LOCKSS Pilot Programme Town Meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2005 in the Philips Room, Institute of Physics, 76 Portland Place, London.**

*Q: Preservation of electronic materials usually happens after the fact but LOCKSS is a pulling system. There is therefore a need to think about moving from the bottom up but what about ingest and doing content enrichment at the point of ingest to bring together preservation and semantic profiling to enable text mining? More favourable licensing options could be achieved as a result.*

A: Funding for this activity is not available as part of this pilot programme but the issues are being considered. It is also perceived that there is a high level of resistance among publishers to this kind of activity but work has started on automatic data extraction. The development team at the DCC are also looking at this issue but using a narrow document set. The Pilot could run some techniques over materials with publishers' permission.

*Q: What is the position in the Pilot of institutions that already have a LOCKSS box?*

A: This is covered in paragraph 30 of the Circular document which states that institutions that already have a LOCKSS box are entitled to bid for a place in the Pilot and they would be included in the maximum of 25 institutions for which there are places. Whether these institutions would need another LOCKSS box would be decided through discussion with the LOCKSS Technical Support Service. The Pilot was set at 25 institutions based on the amount of work that one support office could reasonably undertake. For those institutions who already have a LOCKSS box, there is a need to create a network of boxes to continue to test not yet used software so these institutions could be involved in that activity. There is also the possibility of a second round pilot in 2006.

*Q: How many LOCKSS institutions are there in the UK at the moment?*

A: Approximately 6 including the British Library. However, not all LOCKSS boxes are active.

*Q: Given that institutions subscribe to journals through subscription agents rather than directly with publishers, where do the agents fit into this process?*

A: The subscription agents remain part of the ordering and renewal process. If the subscription agents help the librarians negotiate license terms, then the agents can play a role in having LOCKSS preservation added into the license terms. The LOCKSS system currently preserves publisher hosted content. LOCKSS does not currently preserve materials delivered through aggregated article database services.

*Q: In terms of the scope of discussions with publishers, are Content Complete Ltd going to negotiate with publishers on materials from the start of the Nesli2 licence or on all backfiles?*

A: The negotiations will cover current Nesli content. A certain level of trust has to lie with Content Complete Ltd and what they feel can be achieved in terms of their negotiations. It is always worth asking how far back the publishers are willing to go and there is always the potential to go back for further negotiations.

*Q: Some institutions may not be able to apply for a place in the Pilot for local reasons. Will there be a mechanism for those institutions to be kept informed of LOCKSS developments or will information be restricted?*

A: Information will not be restricted and those institutions that cannot sign up are welcome to attend the training events being held as part of the Pilot. The Research Councils are welcome to submit an application for a place on the Pilot but priority will be given to HE institutions.

*Q: Can institutions/organisations approach and sign up to LOCKSS independently?*

A: Libraries outside the US are encouraged to join the LOCKSS Alliance as "communities of interest". The LOCKSS Program is working to build infrastructure to enable communities to support and extend both the software and collections to serve their own communities needs and interests. The DCC is considering ways to support UK libraries who are not able to participate in this first round of the Pilot.

*Q: The eligibility criteria in the circular document include the need for participating libraries to agree in principle to continue to operate the LOCKSS system for a further two years beyond the Pilot. Will there be licensing issues beyond the initial two year period, i.e. will it fall to institutions to resolve licensing issues or will Content Complete Ltd continue this activity?*

A: Content Complete Ltd, with the JISC, are currently looking at the archiving clauses in JISC's model licence. It is intended that specific clauses for LOCKSS based archiving will be incorporated into the model licence as a standard clause which will reduce the need for future negotiations with publishers. As a part of the international LOCKSS community, libraries also will benefit from the outcome of publisher negotiations undertaken by other libraries outside the UK. Moreover, the funders will consider any further requirements of the community towards the end of the Pilot and this could include support in developing models to jointly tackle publisher negotiation tasks. The commitment that is being sought from institutions is related to collection development beyond the Pilot and the development of local skills during the Pilot to enable this.

*Q: Adam Rusbridge, based at the DCC at the University of Glasgow, is the LOCKSS Technical Support Officer for the LOCKSS Technical Support Service for the Pilot. Are there any back-up staff?*

A: There are 22 members of staff at the DCC based across the UK. Adam's activities will be well documented and all other staff at the DCC are able to be involved in the Pilot if necessary. The Support Service is based at the DCC because of its existing infrastructure.

*Q: It has been stated that the PCs provided to participants in the Pilot will have a low spec. If content is put on to these PCs and institutions subsequently pull out of negotiated deals the PCs could potentially become servers. Will they be robust enough for this kind of use?*

A: The material that will be archived as part of the Pilot is important but it is recognised that it is not heavily used and so it is envisaged that the actual load of serving content will not be that great. Experiments are being undertaken at the University of Glasgow aimed at making the proxy service at institutions more effective but the PCs provided as part of the Pilot should be adequate.