

Towards a strategy for service sector statistics in the UK

Voorburg 2004

Drivers for change

- Modernised systems and infrastructure
 - National accounts re-engineering
 - review of business surveys
- User needs for improvements
 - as expressed in recent review of economic statistics
 - but also needs of others, including Eurostat

ONS modernisation

1. Programme objectives and benefits
2. Programme structure - *the phases*
3. The current phase - Phase 1
4. Current issues

To deliver a world class statistical infrastructure for ONS

- to improve the quality, timeliness and access to the key statistical systems managed by ONS
- to create a more robust and comprehensive body of statistical evidence

To deliver a world class statistical infrastructure for ONS

- a corporate database system (CORD)
- re-engineered key statistical systems
- a set of standard tools
- standardised and systematised processing and presentation of statistical outputs

Benefits

- Cash savings
- Improved quality
- Increased value of outputs
- Improved harmonisation of outputs
- Reduced risks
- Faster access & speed of processing
- Reduced development time
- Reduced compliance costs

Benefits for Users of our Data

- Datasets will be more robust and better suited to their purpose
- Errors and inconsistencies will be reduced
- Outputs will be more timely
- New sources will become available
- New analyses of existing sources will be possible
- Improved use of web dissemination
- Greater transparency as to the methodologies employed

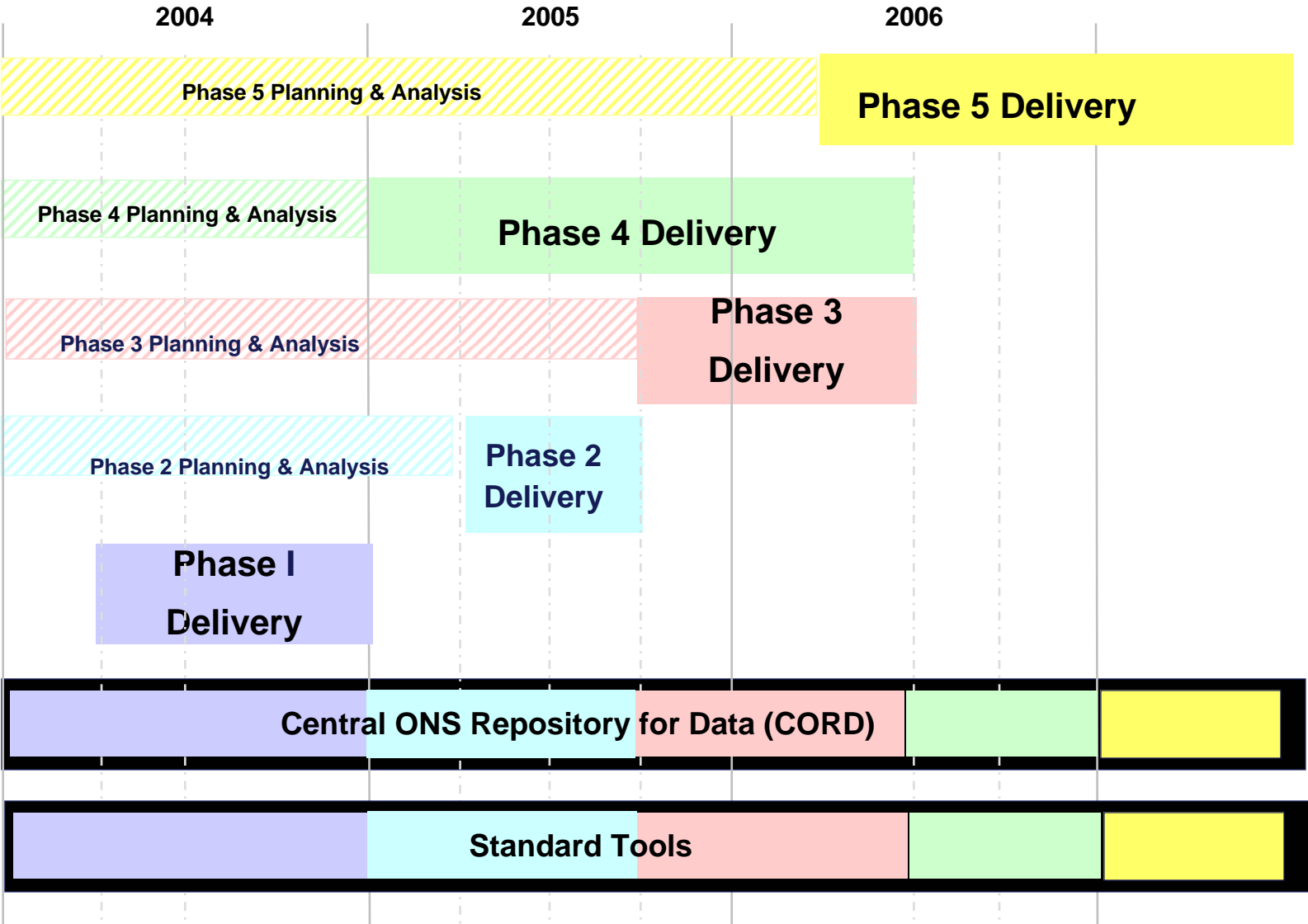
Programme Structure

In 5 phases

1. CORD - *proof of concept*
2. Social Surveys
3. Business Surveys
4. National Accounts Re-Engineering
5. Surveys & Sources Integration

Statistical Modernisation Programme

Indicative Timing of Phases



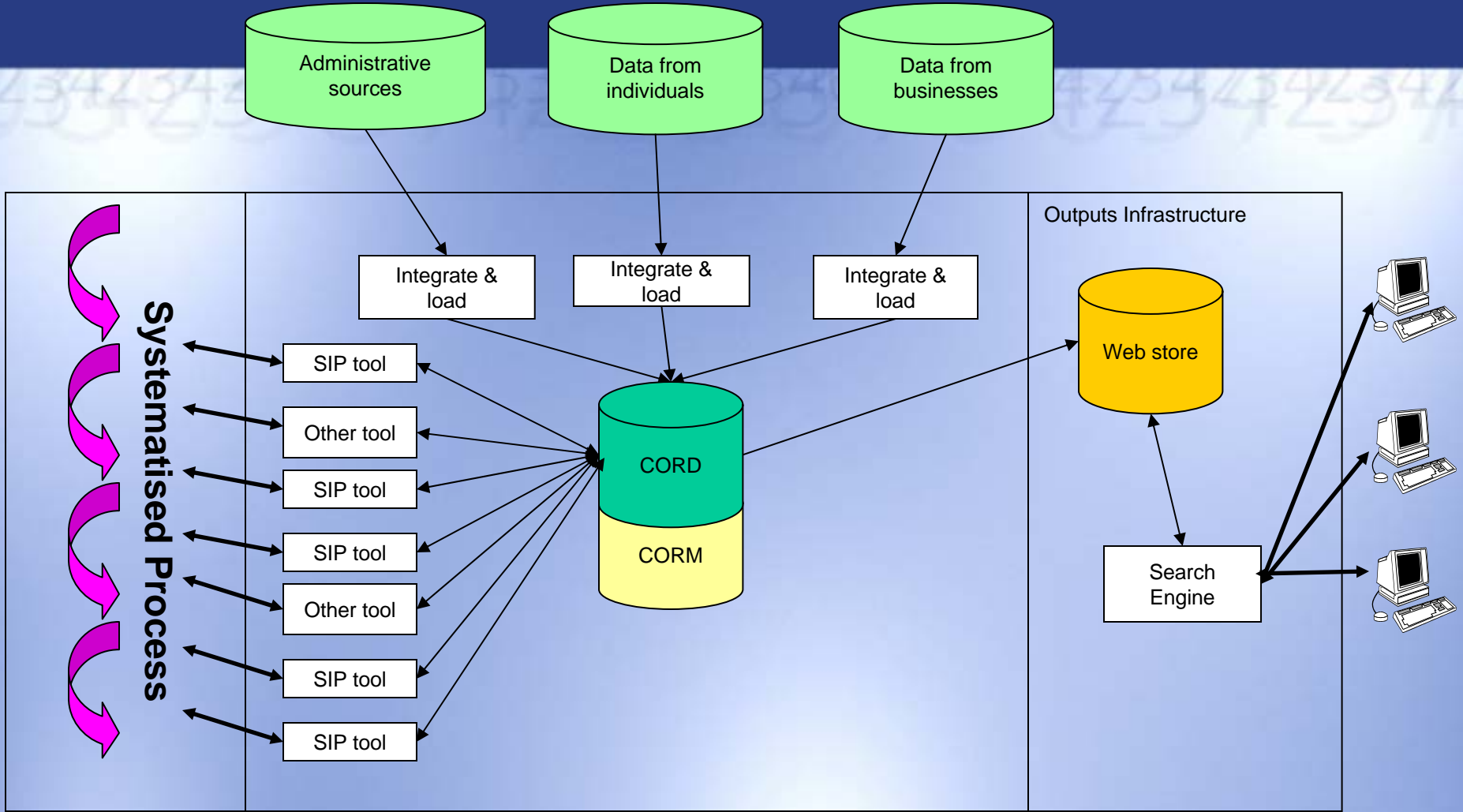
Achievements to date

- Infrastructure and hardware installed
- Basic Content Management System used to create web page
- Project plans created with deliverables, milestones and dependencies
- Relationship with consultants now well developed
- User Interface draft produced
- StoryBoard established
- Classification Repository

- Central ONS Repository for Data
- Central ONS Repository for Metadata
- All ONS data stored here
- Access to all data to everyone - subject to confidentiality
- One large integrated warehouse for data
- Being developed incrementally

Statistical tools

- Statistical tools
 - standard
 - buy not build
 - methodology approved by MG
 - accepted as fit for purpose by business areas



Workflow management

Statistical Data Processing System

What will Phase 1 produce ?

- By 17th December
- Proof of concept
- Test linkages/connectivity
- Get some real examples working
- ONS needs to demonstrate what users get for the investment
- Start the culture change

Proof of Concept

- LMS Rep - LFS
- Population Estimates - aggregates
- Monthly Stocks Inquiry
- Annual Population Survey
- NA Rep - National Accounts 'trailblazer'

Review of user needs

4344545463420540205042050445445447347

Overall aims

- Good regional GDP data, integrated with National Accounts
- Balanced statistical system that evolves with the economy
- Coherent suite of registers, surveys and estimation processes
 - better product and prices information for services
- Making efficient use of information held by government

Benefits

- Improved quality and provision of data for policymakers and others
- Balanced statistical system, that can respond better to structural change
- Coherent and efficient statistical infrastructure

Implementing the recommendations

- Based on six work packages
- Plan to keep users involved

Work Packages

- Analytical Issues
 - Regional Accounts
 - Labour Market
- Admin data sources
- Business Register
- Business Surveys
- Household Surveys
- Other (including regional presence)

'Sources' are key

- Improved IDBR / ARI for more sophisticated sampling and estimation
- Expanded and improved surveys:
 - Annual Business Inquiry (Annual Business Survey)
 - services prices
 - SERVCOM?
 - Role of administrative data against survey data
- Close link to on-going ONS modernisation programme

Institutional solution

- Review identified need for coherent yet efficient decision making process to prioritise demands on ONS
- Use of existing groups
- Plus need for high-level mechanism to determine ONS priorities
- Important we work together: reconcile central, regional and local data demands

Next Steps

- Big methodological challenges to address
- ONS publish work programme
- Form basis of Government response to review
- Implement