

Data Authentication



Leading learning and skills

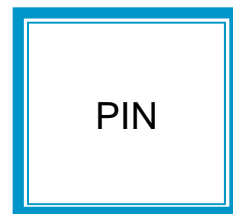
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Authentication



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- Ensuring a joined-up delivery of education services, tailored to the needs of learners, requires a secure and trusted environment for information sharing
- Local authorities, central government and agencies are “custodians” of the public’s information. They must therefore ensure that the right people (i.e. public sector employees or practitioners who have met a set of criteria in order to access a service) are granted the appropriate level of access to sensitive information
- **‘Two factor’ authentication** will increasingly become the minimum security standard required to enable government employees and practitioners to access shared information – this means that systems will require two components to validate the identity of a user:
 - “something you know” – a password or PIN, and
 - “something you have” – a token or card



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**Secure Application /
Network**

LSC Authentication



- The LSC is introducing two-factor authentication for...

- **Staff**
- **Some Contractors**
- **Some external partners**

when accessing services externally – i.e. not from secure LSC Office locations

- LSC will use the **Employee Authentication Service** for authentication

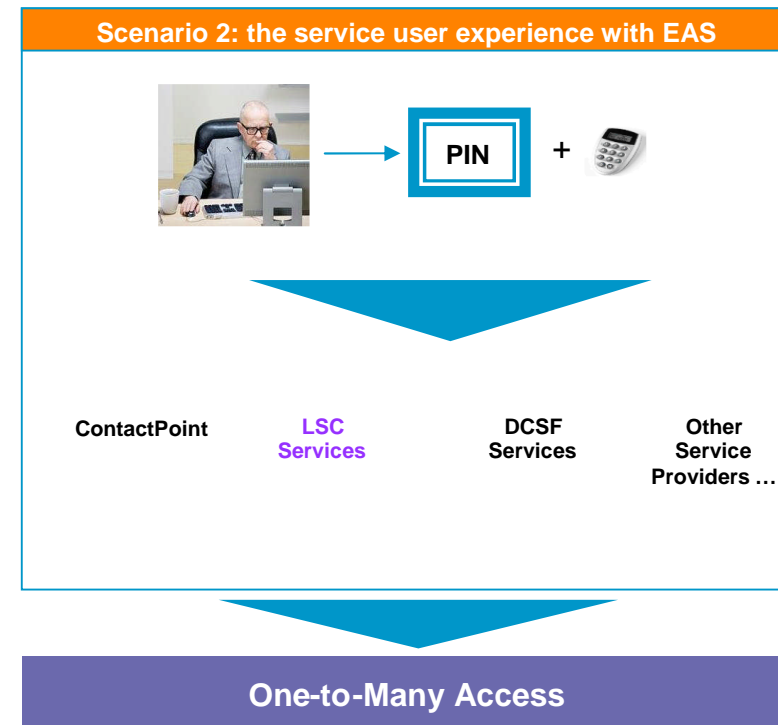
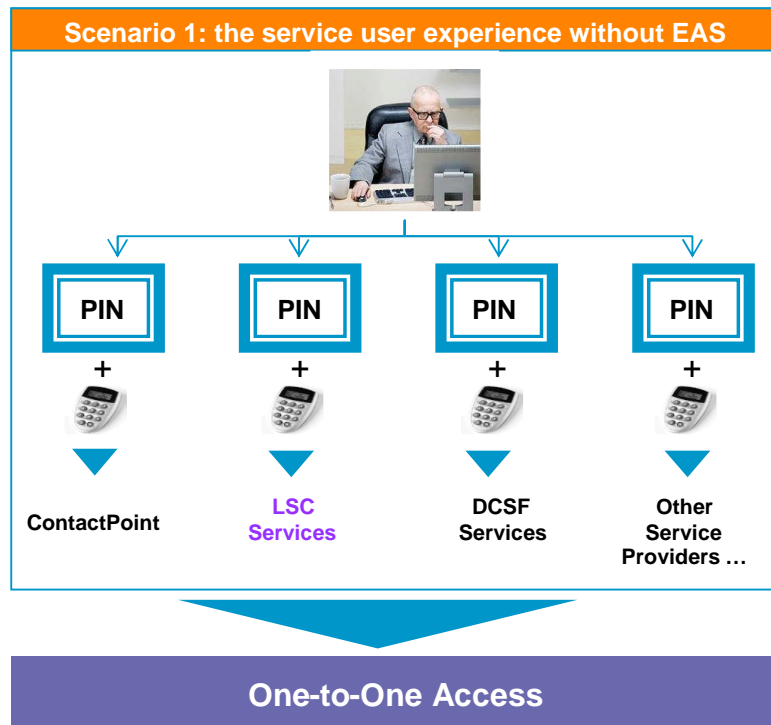
The EAS



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Employee Authentication Service

- Co-funded by DCSF, DWP and CLG as a shared authentication service which supports the principles of value for money and efficiency
- It anticipates the demands of central government on local authorities and reduces the impact on the service user by enabling users to access **multiple** applications through a **single** token
- EAS enables service users to be registered once and then enrolled onto multiple services

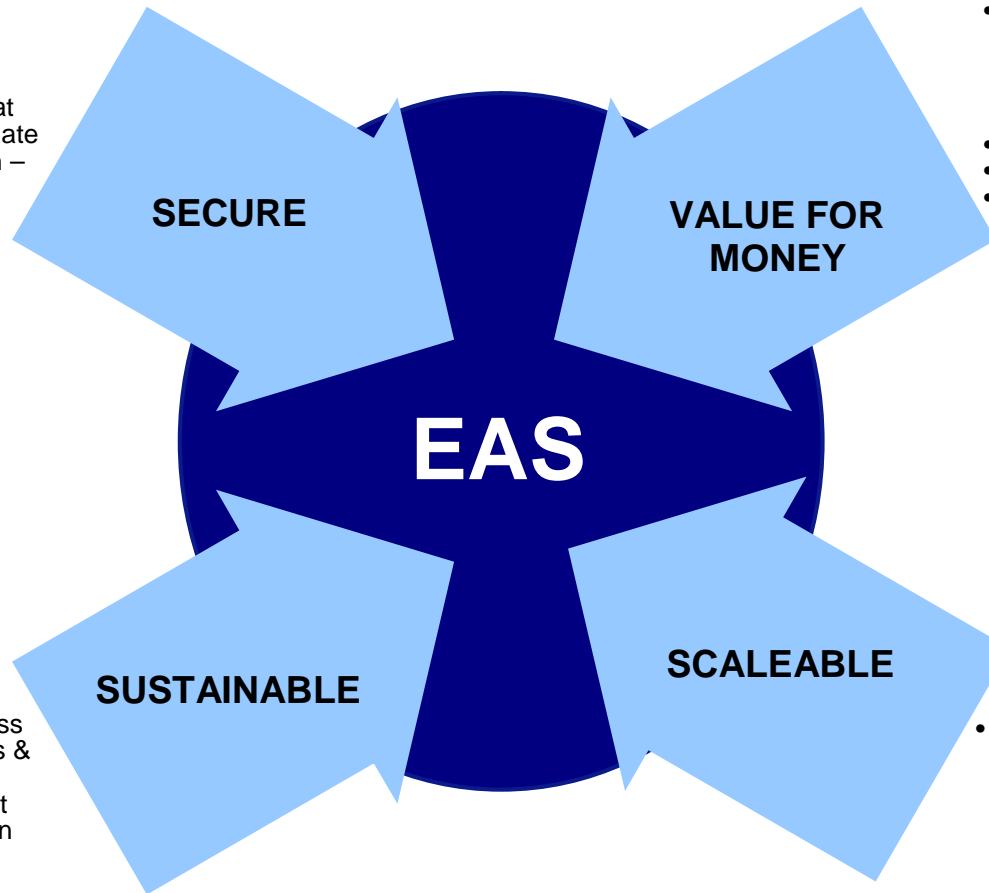


Benefits of the EAS



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- Endorsed and security accredited as a core government shared asset
- Validates users to ensure that the right person has appropriate access to shared information – ‘two factor authentication’



- Leverages economies of scale through Government buying power: around £10 per token (compared to £45-75 average cost to LAs)
- Not-for-profit business model
- Benefits increase over time
- Uses an existing pan-government asset

- Re-uses technology & process
- Common platform, standards & policies across government
- CIO Council: Exemplar Asset
- Local Government involved in design

- Multiple applications accessed through a single authentication token / process

Referenced by the ‘Local Government Data Handling Guidelines’ report (2008) as a best practice solution for local authorities in order to ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to preserve and protect the public’s information.
Referenced by BECTA as a solution to achieve compliance with the spirit of the ‘Data Handling Procedures in Government’ Report

Learning Providers



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- LSC is looking at the feasibility of extending the scope of the Two-Factor Authentication project to include Learning Providers
- Scope covers Provider Gateway and Data Collections
- Feasibility study running through January and February 2010

Contact



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- If you would like to participate in the Feasibility Study, or discuss two-factor authentication, please contact me:

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