Canadian Receiver General's Department 2005 Banking Colloquium Ottawa, October 19th

Developments in Government Banking in the UK

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Main Development Objective

Creating a single efficient and cost-effective service meeting the needs of:

- Revenue and Customs;
- National Savings and Investments (the UK government's retail savings agency);
- Office of the Paymaster General (an existing shared service operation providing banking services to 900 public sector customers);

While retaining overnight balances in the Bank of England for aggregate cash management.



Why are we doing it?

A series of reviews and feasibility studies pointed to it being a natural development:

- potential for economies of scale;
- concentrating and developing expertise;
- better operational links with the commercial banking sector.

The government's current principal banker – the Bank of England – announced last year that it wanted to cease being a volume transaction processor, essentially forcing a change in any case.



Cash Management

All overnight balances pooled at Bank of England

UK Debt Management Office (part of HM Treasury) actively manages the pooled cash position, eg:

- lending when there is a daily surplus;
- borrowing when there is a deficit.

Needs good visibility of the forecast end of day position So the new service must provide real time data to support accurate intra-day forecasting



Indicative Transaction volumes 2005-06 Estimates

	Payments millions	Receipts millions
Paper based payments		
Cheques	25.3	21.8
BGC		4.0
Electronic transfers		
3 Day cycle (BACS)		
Direct Credits	380.0	7.5
Direct Debits		21.6
RTGS (CHAPS)	0.07	0.5
Other transactions		1.8
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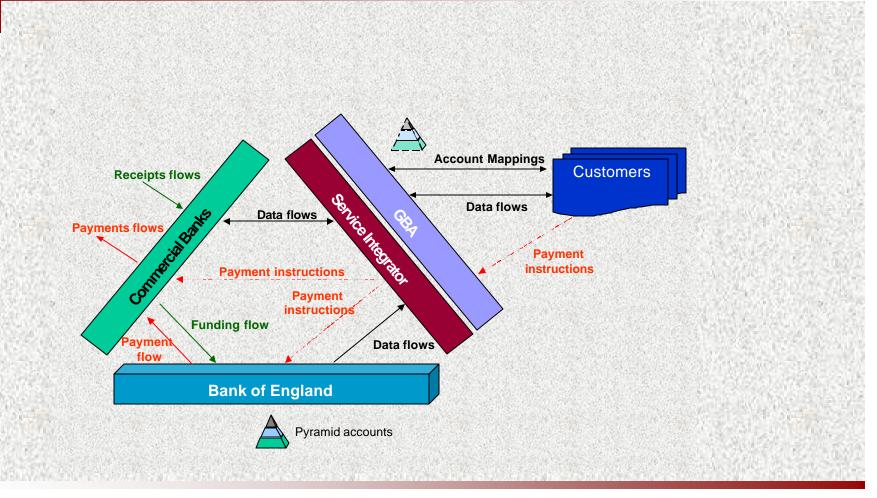


Indicative Transaction values 2005-06 Estimates

	Payments £bn	Receipts £bn
Paper based payments		
Cheques	19.7	104.4
BGC		17.4
Electronic transfers		
3 Day cycle (BACS)		
Direct Credits	265.0	113.0
Direct Debits	0.1	40.0
RTGS (CHAPS)	54.4	228.0
Other transactions	4.9	7.0
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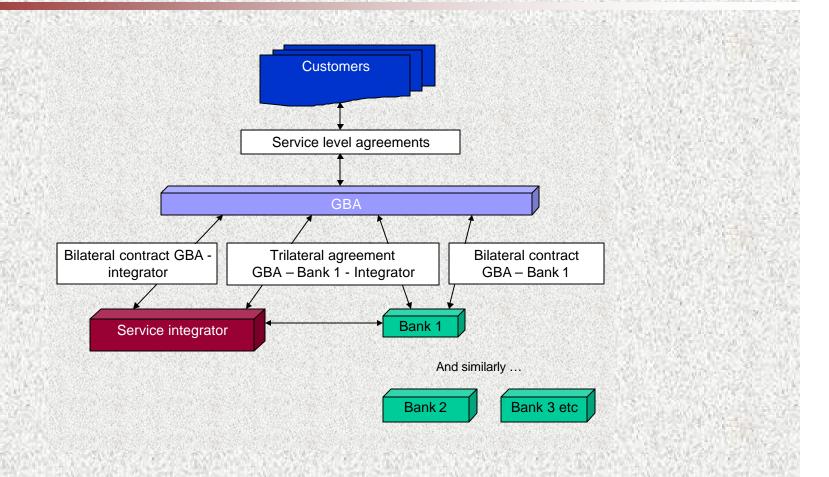


Proposed Data and Financial Flows





Proposed Contractual Arrangements





Progress: The Market

We have had 2 consultations with the market:

- informal bidders conference last
 November
- formal responses to a detailed consultation paper this Summer

And generated a high level of interest from UK banks and outsourcing operators.



Progress: Design and Transition

All departments are now involved in developing their transition plans.

Different challenges for each:

- Customs and Revenue currently do all banking 'in-house';
- Customs and Revenue also working on merging the two departments;
- National Savings and Office of Paymaster
 General: 'back offices' totally outsourced already.



Timetable

December 2005 – launch formal procurement

December 2006 - award contracts

2007 – systems configuration by contractors:
 detailed transition planning and preparation
 by partners

2008 - transition of services

