
govroam

WiFi Shared Services



The KPSN Project

Flexible WiFi access across Kent's Public Services

In partnership with the Kent Public Service Network (KPSN) and KHIPU Networks

Project Background

Requirements for mobile working is continually increasing and the ability to access resources from 'anywhere' over WiFi is now an everyday expectation. Providing such a solution that requires minimal user intervention and that is cost effective, has been traditionally difficult to achieve without reducing the required level of security needed to access corporate information.

Having experienced these challenges himself, Jeff Wallbank, Head of KPSN Partnership at Kent County Council, started a pilot project to enable corporate services to be accessible from any KPSN-connected site over WiFi and at the same time, introduce a platform that could be used across the UK by other public sector organisations. The pilot was called PSNRoam.

"We needed an affordable offering that could scale to support any number of sites and not be limited to specific WiFi technologies. An "all-in-one" solution that could be installed, supported and managed by a single point of contact; enabling a simple roll-out across all public sector sites within Kent and a blueprint platform capable of expansion across the UK.

Our end goal was to facilitate a complete shared service environment across the UK".

Jeff Wallbank – Head of KPSN Partnership

Key Pilot Deliverables

A single WiFi network

To setup a single WiFi network, called PSNRoam, across two organisations (a Borough Council and a Blue Light organisation) so that their users can access "home corporate services" securely from each other's sites.

Create a central secure authentication

Create a WiFi service that will support 'any' WiFi manufacturer technology and that can centrally authenticate all KPSN-connected sites.

Seamless connectivity

To enable a user's device to connect to the WiFi service and access the internet without any complexity.

Supporting multiple WiFi services

Capable of supporting additional WiFi services including public WiFi access and the education sector roaming service "eduroam" (www.eduroam.org) to create a complete 'shared service' environment.

A WiFi service for 'any' organisation

To advertise the WiFi service from non-council organisations such as:

- Hospitals
- Universities
- Colleges

To provide a scalable platform for any corporate organisation who wishes to join the service.

PSNRoam (govroam) Today

For the purpose of the pilot deployment, the single WiFi network was called PSNRoam. Following a decision by the key stakeholders, the service was renamed govroam. The pilot was successfully completed in September 2015 and the deployed WiFi service met all of the deliverables, enabling a blueprint solution to be expanded across Kent and a platform which could be used by other UK public sector organisations. The govroam WiFi service is being rolled out by Kent Connects and KHIPU Networks to sites across Kent including Kent County Council, Ashford Borough Council, Blue Light organisations, South East Commissioning Support Unit (SECSU), East Kent Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (EKHUFT), Canterbury City Council, Thanet District Council, Dover District Council, Maidstone Borough Council, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Swale Borough Council, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council and Gravesham Borough Council. The next phase of the project will be to provide access to local 'home' services from remote locations via the govroam service.

Kent County Council

Central govroam Platform
govroam services across 200+ sites



Ashford Borough Council

govroam & guest WiFi
services across all sites



East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust

govroam WiFi services across 5 hospitals (planned)



govroam - The Benefits

The govroam WiFi service will allow a public sector organisation (e.g. a council or hospital) to connect to the internet seamlessly from locations where the govroam service is available.

There are huge benefits of using the govroam WiFi shared service to improve efficiencies and cost savings including:

Increasing the productivity of mobile workers by enabling them to connect effectively from any public sector building that offers govroam.

Allowing co-location of staff thus maximising the flexibility of the public estate across the UK.

Improving disaster recovery and business continuity operations by enabling staff to easily relocate to alternative sites and have access to online systems.

Facilitating health/social care interaction by enabling connectivity at NHS sites.

Improving professional development and training by enabling connectivity at University, College and School sites (including joint publishing of eduroam and govroam).

Reducing costs through less reliance on mobile 3G/4G “dongles” to provide connectivity for mobile workers.

“Working with Kent County Council and KHIPU Networks, Ashford Borough Council were the first site within Kent to pilot govroam and after successful testing, we now have a county-wide solution to enable our users to connect to their resources anywhere within Kent where the govroam WiFi service is available.”

Robin Jones
Ashford Borough Council

Wish to connect to govroam?

To get govroam connected, there are two options available.

Purchasing a govroam “all-in-one” managed service solution. This includes the required hardware and installation which is fully supported and managed. The supplied solution can also provide guest access and Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) on-boarding provisioning services.

Configuring your own RADIUS platform, supported by your own organisation.

Contact KHIPU Networks

If you are interested in learning more about the govroam solution and how to get connected, please contact KHIPU Networks:

- sales@khipu-networks.com (with the subject heading “govroam”)
- 0345 2720902

About KPSN - The Kent Public Service Network (KPSN) is a broadband ICT network developed by a partnership of public sector agencies. Built to the highest standards, this integrated network has been designed to meet the growing demands for better access to services, on-line service delivery and multi-agency shared services. www.kpsn.net



About Kent Connects - Kent Connects is an innovative IT partnership of 17 public sector partners in Kent. www.kentconnects.gov.uk



About KHIPU Networks LTD - KHIPU Networks is a leading provider of Next-Generation Wi-Fi and Cyber Security solutions within the public sector. We developed a shared service platform to enable WiFi networks including govroam and eduroam (JISC partnership) to be accessible from any location. www.khipu-networks.com

