UK Network Operators Forum Overview

IEPG Meeting,
London
2nd March 2014

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UKNOF

Context

- Welcome to London !
- Need for Internet operational co-ordination groups seems to be growing at all levels of geography
  - IEPG – Global
  - RIPE, NANOG – Regional
  - UKNOF – National
- Here's some things that have worked for us..

UKNOF Remit

- From Charter:
  - *"To pro-actively support the sharing of knowledge, ideas and best practices to enhance the effective, stable and secure operation of the UK's Internet infrastructure as a whole."*
  - *"UKNOF's remit is technical, and any discussion or activities involving commercial, legal or political issues should be limited to where they have a direct impact on technical aspects of network operations."*
- "Distribution of clue" ☺

Current Status

- Established 2005
- We have run 27 successful meetings ☺
  ~40-200 attendees each time
- Mailing list of ~1000 people
- Programme Committee
- Member Advisory Committee
- Board
- Committed regular volunteers
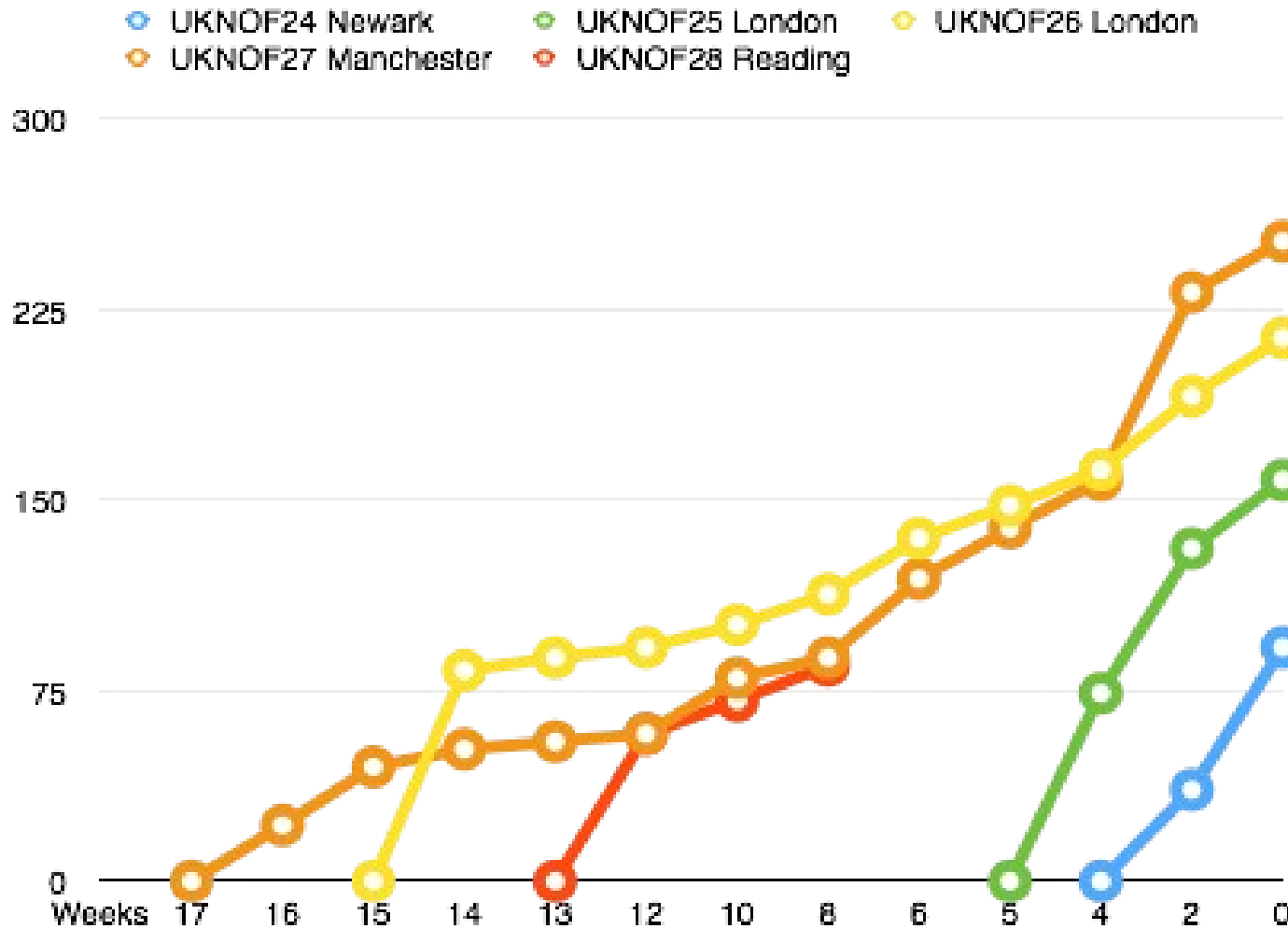- Secure ongoing financial base

UKNOF Activities

- ## One-day meetings:
  - Current, interesting, stimulating, relevant sharing of knowledge, experiences and best practices
  - Wider-ranging and less specific remit than other UK Internet bodies
  - OPEN to all, bring in new blood
  - Bring world-class international speakers to UK audience
  - Live and recorded webcasts
- ## Mailing list, LinkedIn and Facebook groups
  - Mostly announcements

UKNOF Meetings

- 3 times per year
  - At least one per year in London
  - At least one per year outside London

- Dates are now notionally 3rd Thursday of every Jan, Apr & Sep
  - subject to venue/calendar etc availability

- We are always looking for venues/sponsors

Meeting Registration

UKNOF Governance

- Principle has been to put things on a more formal footing, without over-thinking or creating structure with too much overhead

- We are **not** running monopoly, mission-critical national Internet infrastructure here !

- UKNOF Board accountable to community through stakeholder *non-profit* Internet organisations that contribute in some way to UKNOF's operation

- Implemented via *Advisory Committee* of individual representatives appointed by these organisations

- See http://wiki.uknof.org.uk for who is on which of our Committees and Board

Programme Committee UKNOF

- 14 volunteers
- Ensures supply of interesting presentations
- http://www.uknof.org.uk/uknof-pc.html
- We are **always** looking for interesting, topical, relevant speakers and presentations
- Now issuing call for abstracts well in advance of each meeting to promote quality of material
  - http://indico.uknof.org.uk/conferenceCFA.py?confId=30
- Ideas and suggestions to: <pc@uknof.org.uk>

Funding Model

- Non-profit
- We prefer to avoid charging meeting registration fees
- This has been possible so far through per-meeting vendor sponsors
    - want to continue this !
- *Experiment* with limited paid-for registrations:
    - to permit individual donations
    - to encourage early registration
- We now have a good operating cash buffer

Sponsorship

- Host, Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze levels
- Also Supporter and Social Recognition levels
- http://wiki.uknof.org.uk/Sponsorship/Overview
- So far achieving/exceeding £25k per meeting
- Planning "Patron" sponsor level
- Please talk to our Events Manager Denesh Bhabuta if you are interested in sponsoring

Development Challenges

- 12-18 months ago, it became clear to the Board that UKNOF's success needed to be more pro-actively managed

- Donated venues no longer big enough
  - turning attendees away
  - limit of ~100 spaces

- Excess of supply over demand from interested sponsors
  - lost opportunities

- Events becoming larger, more complex, taking more resources and demands on volunteers to manage

Recent Achievements

- First >200 attendee meetings !
- "Indico" conference management platform
- Improved sponsor/supporter framework
- Defined expenses policy
- <volunteers@lists.uknof.org.uk> mailing list
- Reviewed Committee composition and appointed "new blood"
- Gradually migrating website content to wiki

Next Meetings

- **UKNOF28**
  - Huawei Reading, 24th April 2014
- **UKNOF29**
  - Belfast, 8th/9th September 2014
  - Jointly with ISoc ION event
- **UKNOF30**
  - London TBC, Jan 2015
- Always looking for speakers !

Contact Details

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Programme
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Meetings: http://indico.uknof.org.uk

Questions ?