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[Note: All redactions in this document are Section 40 exemptions]

From: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@microsoft.com]

Sent: 20 May 2011 19:33

To: [REDACTED] Cabinet Office

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Microsoft Standards Database

[REDACTED]

As promised in my earlier email, please find attached our Standards Database in the form of a spreadsheet, parts of which you have already seen in your meeting with [REDACTED]

I have left the format as Office OpenXML (.xlsx) to ensure it reaches you in the form we deal with it internally. If you would prefer a different format, please let us know and we will convert and return it having first ensured that the conversion is accurate.

The data is aggregated from public sources and is probably an understatement of our support for standards. I would add the caveat is that the data continually changes and the spreadsheet is merely a snapshot of part of the data we have.

May I also draw your attention to the Open Government Data Initiative (OGDI) – a project built by the Microsoft Developer and Platform Evangelist (DPE) group. We would recommend that when you do eventually publish the results of your consultation and the new Government Standards for ICT, that the list itself should open data. (I'm sure you're planning that anyway!) We have taken the liberty of demonstrating how this is possible through OGDI with the current UK data set of standards, which you can see through the two URLs below.

UK Cabinet Office Technical Standards on OGDI.

<http://ogdisdk.cloudapp.net/DataBrowser/ukcots/UkCabinetOfficeTechnicalStandards#param=NOFI LTER--DataView--Results>

Full Query REST URL:

<http://ogdi.cloudapp.net/v1/ukcots/UkCabinetOfficeTechnicalStandards/>

Exposing your standards data in a machine readable way has the tremendous advantage of permitting automated benchmarking of your standards against those of other countries (or localities, cities, or departments of government, etc.), and also against those supported by products and technologies (both open source and commercial).

We could help expose this data in a restful manner on a Government web site and would be happy to discuss how this could be achieved. One final point of note and that is while OGDI uses Microsoft Azure, the OData initiative does not require Microsoft Azure.

We sincerely hope this of help and we're happy to discuss any of the above further in as much detail as you might need with you or any of your team.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Microsoft UK Ltd

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Contact the NTO Team at uknto@microsoft.com or follow @UKNTO on Twitter

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