

## Notes on Workshop A PIA Workshops at DPO Conference

4 March 2009

The morning and afternoon workshops were both very well attended and there was a good level of debate and discussion at each session. However, whilst there were a number of questions about the handbook and the methodology of PIAs the main concern that came up at both workshops was to do with engagement and the role of the Data Protection Office (DPO) in promoting PIAs.

It became clear that in some organisations the DPO's role means that they are not automatically involved in new projects from the outset and this can make it extremely difficult for them to promote the use of PIAs.

This also made it clear that PIAs work best in organisations where the DPO is recognised as having a key role in promoting privacy rather than those in which the DPO's role is narrower and focused mainly on the more functional aspects of data protection compliance such as dealing with subject access requests.



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