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PS Scheme
community of practice

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Rupert Grayston, CEO

What is an online community?

Interaction for people with shared interests; may interact via:

- A simple email group

- Online/F2F meetings

- Online platform for access to information, education, chat groups, events

Model: self-managed/coordinated/curated

Why form/join an online community?

- Share & disseminate knowledge

- Network with those with common interest

- Obtain quick advice

- Access expertise

- Collaborate – online chat; forum events

- Collective accessibility by other parties

Existing online communities

Assessing Authorities Network Group:

(organisations authorised to conduct migration skills assessments)

- > 30 professional associations and occupational regulators

- Self-managed

- Questions/alerts via email group

- F2F or online ½ to 1-day forums 1-2 times annually

- Interacts with Depts of Education/Skills & Home Affairs

Existing online communities

Professional Standards Scheme Network Group: (2.5 years)

- Self-managed; circulating chair
- ~6 association scheme managers
- Online meeting 3-monthly or so
- Share & discuss topics (eg claims monitoring, compliance, professional conduct, consumer initiatives)
- Share updates on schemes
- Discuss changes in scheme & PSIP requirements

Single or multiple streams?

Case example: IPWEA:

- ~4,000 association members

- ~30,000 online community members (internationally)

- Tech information, news, education, chat groups

- Started as 5 technical streams

- Founder advice: you only need one stream