

PRINT

Reader's Digest, December

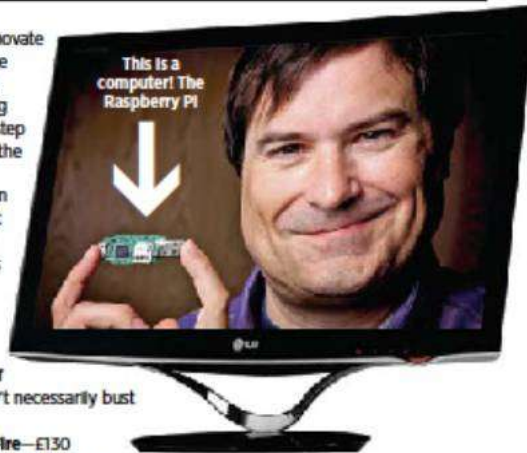
DIGITAL WITH MARTHA LANE FOX



BARGAIN GADGETS

You don't need to break the bank to keep up with technology

Few business sectors innovate as fast as technology: the frenzied pace of change makes for mind-boggling choices every time you step into a gadget shop. But the good news is that this competition drives down costs. It also means that companies are likely to come out with products that let you modify existing computers. This means that if you're thinking of buying someone a bit of kit for Christmas, it won't necessarily bust your budget.



The Amazon Kindle Fire—£130 and closest rival so far to the iPad—is leading the mass-market charge, but, I have to admit, the gizmo I'm most excited by just now is the new **Raspberry Pi**. It's a powerful machine that's microscopic (well, the size of a credit card) and you can plug it into a TV or touchscreen to get a tablet. But what's really revolutionary about this wee thing is the price tag. For years, people have been trying to bring out a sub-£100 PC, so Raspberry Pi's £25 price makes it the kind of product that business bods like me label a "game-changer". The Raspberry Pi Foundation, the charity behind it, is mostly looking at educational and developing-world

markets, but a rash of other interesting applications and rivals is bound to follow. Meanwhile, in my Race Online 2012 team, we've been working with the big technology companies to ensure that nobody is put off going online by the cost (23% of the 8.7 million in the UK who've never been online say it's the price that's stopping them). Microsoft and PCUK have both brought out high-quality refurbished PCs set up with Windows 7; Remploy's version comes fitted with open-source software. Go to champions. go-on.co.uk/ways-to-be-a-digital-champion/buy for the latest deals.

COOL STUFF TO LOOK OUT FOR

Another bit of ultra-low-cost magic that's recently hit the market and gets my vote is Sugru. This is a squishy, brightly coloured substance that you mould like Play-Doh, but 24 hours later it fixes like superglue. It won't help you get online, but it's incredible at customising or prolonging the lifespan of the gadgets that do. Go to the inventor's website—her name's Jane—at Sugru.com to see all the amazing ways people are using it—from making teeny digital camera buttons big enough to move, to sculpting little feet for MacBooks so they stay cool, to fixing broken computer keypads, to making plinths to stick cameras or iPhones on your bike—the sky's the limit really. Just £7 for a squiddy packet of endlessly useful fun!

If your DIY tendencies are even more Heath Robinson, take a look at Arduino (right), which lets you make computers to sense and control the world around you, and make really unlikely physical objects interactive: operate a coffee machine with your Wii; get your electricity monitor



teaching people how to fix, reuse or repurpose the products that surround us.

If you're after something that's a bit more plug-in-and-play (and be warned: I'm about

to give my Lucky Voice business a shameless plug), then this is one karaoke party box that no home should be without. You get 8,000 karaoke hits on the web, plus microphone and mixer. Just add a home computer and your own dulcet tones! The limited edition, white-as-snow Lucky Voice Party Box launches exclusively this Christmas in Selfridges and at shop.luckyvoice.com, £49.95; mfc, £19.95 ■

Martha Lane Fox is the UK's digital champion and founder of raceonline2012.org

to beam your power usage onto Twitter; enable your plants to phone or email you when they need watering. If that sounds exciting, but a bit mind-boggling, check out the Technology Will Save Us site, which runs really fun workshops



Get the party started with the Lucky Voice Party Box



PRINT

Woman's Weekly 17th December

Welcome To The Web



Martha Lane Fox is leading Race Online 2012, a campaign to get the 8.7 million people in the UK who aren't online, connected.

This Christmas, swap recipes, tips and cooking tricks with fellow foodies using the Internet. Head to BBC Food (www.bbc.co.uk/food) to find a fresh take on an old favourite; compare ideas using online forums, such as www.mumsnet.com or bring your favourite chef to your kitchen by re-watching cooking shows on www.youtube.com. Need that special ingredient, or keen to avoid queues? Do your supermarket sweep

online. Shop around for the best deals using comparison sites such as www.mysupermarket.co.uk.
 ● Spend just an hour of your time to find out some of the amazing things you can do online. Call 0800 771234 to find a free taster-event in your area. Or ask a family member or friend to give an hour to help you use the net at www.go-on.co.uk.

Woman's Weekly Makes It Easy!

A Techie Christmas

Santa has an entire bundle of gadgets available. Chris Partridge chooses a selection for all the family

DAD Fujitsu FinePix SP2 Waterproof Digital Camera
 Likely to entertain everybody at Christmas, the SP2 camera has a great photos, has a compact camera, has a decent zoom, and a water- shock, dust and cold-resistant in the waterproof body. It's a great gift for the tech-savvy dad. www.fujitsu.com or www.computec.com



DIGITAL Digital Camera, ENGET 35
 Handy and compact, this camera is a great gift for the tech-savvy dad. It's a great gift for the tech-savvy dad. www.enget.com or www.computec.com



MUM Amazon's original Kindle is now available in a new, lighter than a paperback. On the new Kindle, there's no keyboard, so it's small enough to fit into a handbag. Books are downloaded from Amazon, where there are 250,000 titles. www.amazon.co.uk or www.computec.com



BOYS Logitech Gaming Keyboard G700
 Games aficionados will love the military-style keyboard. The keyboard and mouse are particularly good for Call of Duty: Super Modern Warfare 2, with its programmable keys and tracking wheel that allow you to do more in-game operations than normally seen. www.logitech.com



T-TECH T-Tech Taper Tip 208 Digital Water Culture Pen
 James Bond with the camera strapped to a pen. The look is simply by inserting the USB into the computer. Comes in a stylish, sleek, black case. www.t-tech.com



Logitech Color Collection
 Brighten up your computer with a Logitech keyboard and mouse, which are also slightly smaller than standard to make them easy for your fingers. www.logitech.com or www.computec.com



GIRLS Pure Colour Universal Remote with iPod dock
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 Get the best of both worlds. The Simple Board lets you use your PC or Mac, using either the supplied stylus or any mouse by just installing your finger, and the board can be used on a computer before using and saving the rest. www.simple.com



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 Looking for a pet that's misbehaving, lost or if your dog or cat has the Pli's Pet Protection. The Pli's Pet Protection GPS Stop and Call Tracker is a small, unobtrusive, reliable, professional and fast tracking. Send a text from your mobile and you'll get your pet's coordinates. There's no other way to find your pet. www.pli.com



Welcome To The Web



This Christmas, swap recipes, tips and cooking tricks with fellow foodies using the Internet. Head to BBC Food (www.bbc.co.uk/food) to find a fresh take on an old favourite; compare ideas using online forums, such as www.mumsnet.com or bring your favourite chef to your kitchen by re-watching cooking shows on www.youtube.com. Need that special ingredient, or keen to avoid queues? Do your supermarket sweep

online. Shop around for the best deals using comparison sites such as www.mysupermarket.co.uk.
 ● Spend just an hour of your time to find out some of the amazing things you can do online. Call 0800 771234 to find a free taster-event in your area. Or ask a family member or friend to give an hour to help you use the net at www.go-on.co.uk.

PRINT

Woman's Weekly 31st December

Welcome To The Web



Martha Lane Fox is leading Race Online 2012, a campaign to get the 8.7 million people in the UK who aren't online, connected.

For a healthier, happier you this New Year, head to the web for simple ideas and sensible solutions to help achieve your good intentions.

Try Change4Life (www.nhs.uk/Change4Life) for top tools and great advice on eating well and moving more. While it can't put your trainers on for you, it's full of everyday ways and fun activities to help keep you active. Need help with those

common vices? Mobile phone apps, such as NHS Quit Smoking can help you finally give up on giving up.

● Spend just an hour of your time to find out some of the amazing things you can do online. Call 0800 77 1234 to find a free taster event in your area or ask a family member or friend to Give an Hour to help you use the Internet — visit www.go-on.co.uk

Woman's Weekly Makes It Easy!

Join The Twitterati

If you're bored of it but haven't got a clue what it is, Chris Partridge explains the phone and computer led phenomenon

Imagine a texting system where you can use a computer or mobile phone to send a short message to a friend or family member. It's called Twitter. You can use it to share your thoughts, photos and videos with your friends and family. It's a great way to stay in touch with people you care about.



It's a great way to stay in touch with people you care about. You can use it to share your thoughts, photos and videos with your friends and family. It's a great way to stay in touch with people you care about.

GETTING STARTED To get started, you need to create a Twitter account. This is easy to do and you can do it from your phone or computer. Once you have an account, you can start following people and sending tweets.

FOLLOWING To follow someone on Twitter, you need to go to their profile page and click the 'Follow' button. This will add them to your list of people you follow. You can also follow people from search results.

TWEETING To tweet, you need to go to the 'Compose a new tweet' page. Here you can enter your message and add a photo or video. Once you're ready, click the 'Tweet' button to post your message.

TRENDING Trending topics are the most popular topics on Twitter at the moment. You can see these topics on the 'Trending' page. This is a great way to see what people are talking about.

FIND FRIENDS To find friends on Twitter, you can go to the 'Find friends' page. Here you can see a list of people who are following you and who you might want to follow.

Six Of The Best Tweeters

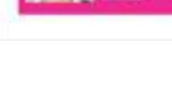
1. **Barack Obama** (@BarackObama) - The President of the United States.
2. **Michelle Obama** (@MichelleObama) - The First Lady of the United States.
3. **Chris Partridge** (@ChrisPartridge) - A British comedian and actor.
4. **David Cameron** (@DavidCameron) - The Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.
5. **Wendie** (@Wendie) - A British singer and songwriter.
6. **James Van Der Beek** (@JamesVanDerBeek) - An American actor.

Checklist

- | | |
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| Do... | Don't... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Follow people you don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> Follow people who don't follow you |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Retweet every tweet you see | <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to every tweet you see |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use bad language | <input type="checkbox"/> Post offensive content |

Welcome To The Web

For a healthier, happier you this New Year, head to the web for simple ideas and sensible solutions to help achieve your good intentions. Try Change4Life (www.nhs.uk/Change4Life) for top tools and great advice on eating well and moving more. While it can't put your trainers on for you, it's full of everyday ways and fun activities to help keep you active. Need help with those



common vices? Mobile phone apps, such as NHS Quit Smoking can help you finally give up on giving up. ● Spend just an hour of your time to find out some of the amazing things you can do online. Call 0800 77 1234 to find a free taster event in your area or ask a family member or friend to Give an Hour to help you use the Internet — visit www.go-on.co.uk

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Northampton Chronicle and Echo 13th December

Youngsters give web lessons



Leigh Smyth, managing director of Race Online 2012, talking to pupils
CC picture by SHARON LUCY for the Chronicle

PUPILS at Woodland View Primary School in Northampton spent an hour helping members of the public become more familiar with the internet.

The youngsters took part in the 'give an hour' campaign yesterday to help some older people discover the benefits of being online.

Sophie Cross, ICT coordinator, said: "The children will benefit massively from the opportunity to become the teacher, sharing their expertise and helping others."

Recipe passed down generations voted one of best festive treats

Mince pie sensation wows The One Show experts



Christmas Christmas with a selection of top Christmas recipes from...

By Emma Clark
 Christmas Recipes

AGRAMENTATION'S home-made mince pies have been selected as being among the best in the UK.

The prize-winning recipe has been shared with us in a video after the show. The recipe is available on the One Show website at www.bbc.com/1/programmes/one-show.

After being awarded spots in the show, the team is looking forward to producing a range of mince pies for the show.

"I'm really excited about the show and the fact that we've been selected as one of the best in the UK. It's a real honour and we're looking forward to producing a range of mince pies for the show."

Recipe for mince pie
 100g butter
 100g lard
 200g plain flour
 1 egg
 100g suet
 100g raisins
 100g currants
 100g sultanas
 100g dried fruit
 100g mince
 100g mince
 100g mince

Recipe for pud
 100g butter
 100g lard
 200g plain flour
 1 egg
 100g suet
 100g raisins
 100g currants
 100g sultanas
 100g dried fruit
 100g mince
 100g mince
 100g mince

NEWS BRIEF'S

Make a date with ranked Saints stars

SAINTS manager Steve Bruce has named his top 25 ranked players in the club's 125th anniversary special. The list includes club legends like Ian Wright and Kevin Phillips, as well as current stars like Jermain Jenas and Adam Lallana.

NETFlix could be...

NETFlix could be the answer to the problem of finding a good TV show to watch. The company has announced that it will be launching a new service in the UK, which will allow users to watch TV shows and movies on their computers and mobile phones.

THE King Edward Road...

THE King Edward Road in Northampton has been selected as one of the best in the UK. The road is known for its historic buildings and its proximity to the city centre.

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Youngsters give web lessons



Leigh Smyth, managing director of Race Online 2012, talking to pupils

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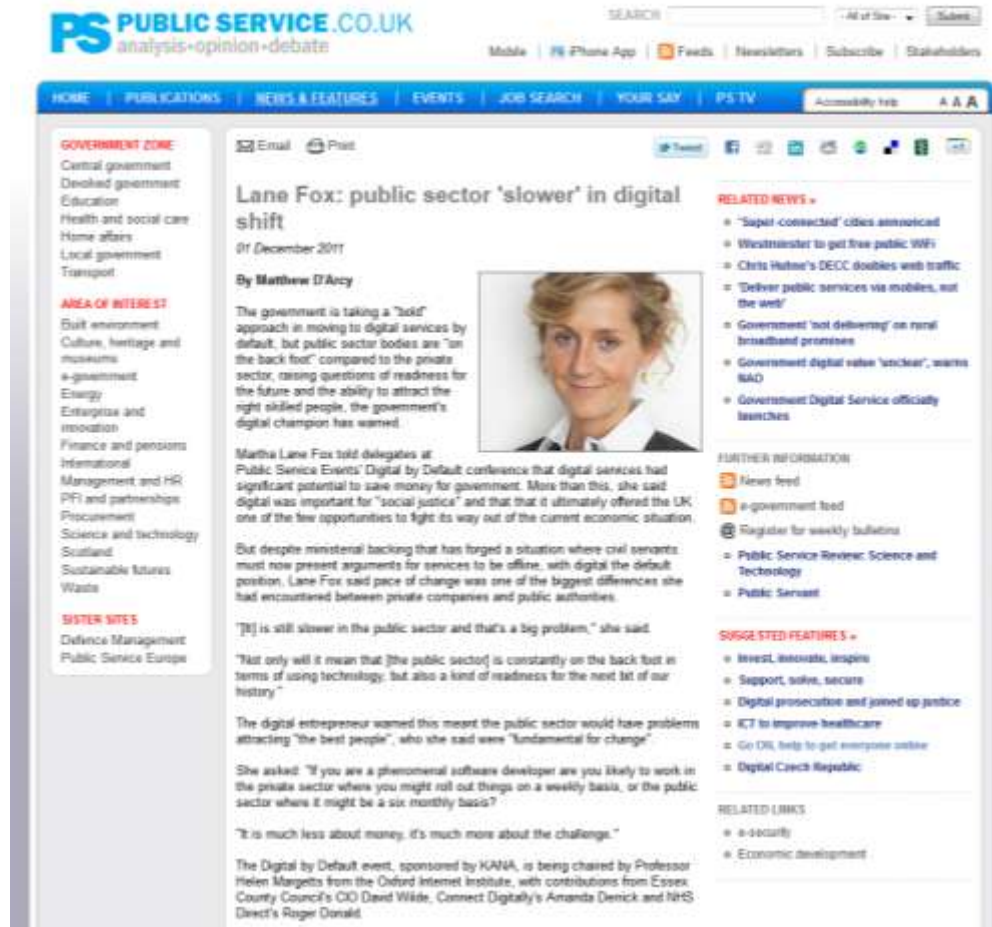
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Recipe passed down generations voted one of best festive treats

Recipe passed down generations voted one of best festive treats

ONLINE - 1st December 2011

http://www.publicservice.co.uk/news_story.asp?id=18180



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Lane Fox: public sector 'slower' in digital shift
01 December 2011
By Matthew D'Arcy

The government is taking a "bold" approach in moving to digital services by default, but public sector bodies are "on the back foot" compared to the private sector, raising questions of readiness for the future and the ability to attract the right skilled people, the government's digital champion has warned.

Matha Lane Fox told delegates at Public Service Events' Digital by Default conference that digital services had significant potential to save money for government. More than this, she said digital was important for "social justice" and that that it ultimately offered the UK one of the few opportunities to fight its way out of the current economic situation.

But despite ministerial backing that has forged a situation where civil servants must now present arguments for services to be offline, with digital the default position, Lane Fox said pace of change was one of the biggest differences she had encountered between private companies and public authorities.

"[It] is still slower in the public sector and that's a big problem," she said.

"Not only will it mean that [the public sector] is constantly on the back foot in terms of using technology, but also a kind of readiness for the next bit of our history."

The digital entrepreneur warned this meant the public sector would have problems attracting "the best people", who she said were "fundamental for change".

She asked: "If you are a phenomenal software developer are you likely to work in the private sector where you might roll out things on a weekly basis, or the public sector where it might be a six monthly basis?"

"It is much less about money, it's much more about the challenge."

The Digital by Default event, sponsored by KANA, is being chaired by Professor Helen Margetts from the Oxford Internet Institute, with contributions from Essex County Council's CIO David Wilde, Connect Digital's Amanda Denck and NHS Direct's Roger Donald.

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- Go ON, help to get everyone online
- Digital Czech Republic

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ONLINE - 5th December 2011

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/housing-network/2011/dec/05/martha-lane-fox-social-housing-tenants-online>



The screenshot shows the Guardian website interface. At the top, there are navigation links for Home, Sport, Comment, Culture, Business, Science, 230+ more, Travel, Environment, TV, Film, Music, Mobile, Other, and Ads. Below this is a banner for 'housing network blog' with the subtext 'Helping tenants and landlords work together'. The main article is titled 'Martha Lane Fox: almost half offline population lives in social housing' and is dated 5th December 2011. The article text discusses the challenges of social housing, the role of the Housing Network, and the importance of tenant participation. On the right side of the page, there are sections for 'Jobs of the week', 'Housing jobs', and 'Join the housing network'. The bottom of the page features a 'Follow' section with various social media and newsletter options.

ONLINE - 5th December 2011

<http://www.insidehousing.co.uk/tenancies/tenants-held-back-by-poor-internet-access/6519436.article>






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Tenants held back by poor internet access

5 December 2011 | By [Shannon Bury](#), [Shannon Bury](#)

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Almost half of the UK's adult population who do not use the internet live in social housing, the government's digital champion has said.

Martha Lane Fox, who heads up government plans to get more people online, said 4.1 million tenants are disadvantaged by not having access to the internet because it makes it harder to find work or achieve in education.

Figures from the Office of National Statistics show 8.4 million people across the UK do not use the internet.

She said the benefits for the most vulnerable in society would be worth £3.1 billion through saving money on bills and shopping, and that housing associations and councils would also be able to save by contacting residents and carrying out transactions over the internet instead of in person or by letter.

Ms Lane Fox made her comments as she launched a push to get more social housing tenants online as part of the government's Race 2012 campaign, which aims to get more people using the internet by the end of the Olympic year.

Housing minister Grant Shapps will chair the 'Digital by Default' summit tomorrow at the Communities and Local Government department headquarters in London with Ms Lane Fox to discuss how to help social housing tenants with computer skills.

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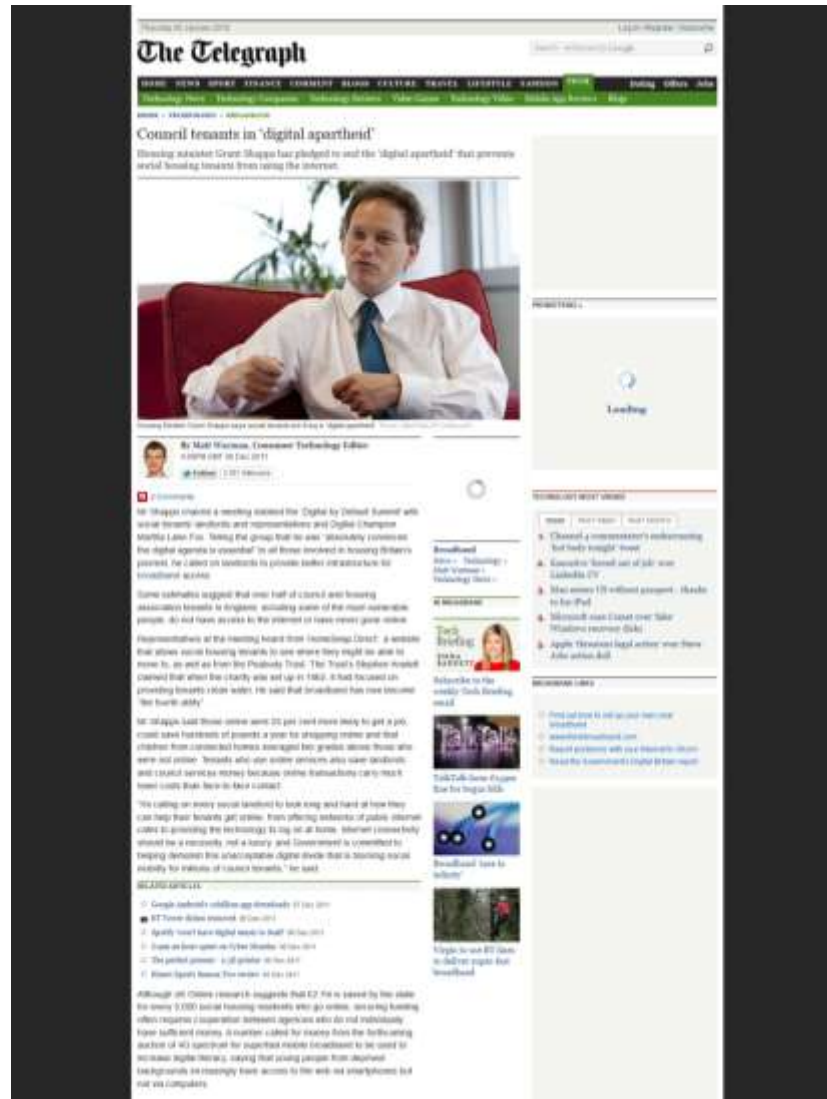
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 5 December 2011
 Millions of social housing tenants could be set to gain internet access for the first time after housing minister Grant Shapps committed himself to ending 'digital apartheid'.
- > **Digital dawn**
 02/09/2011
 Landlords must join the campaign to get millions of people online as the internet is vital to their progress

ONLINE - 6th December 2011

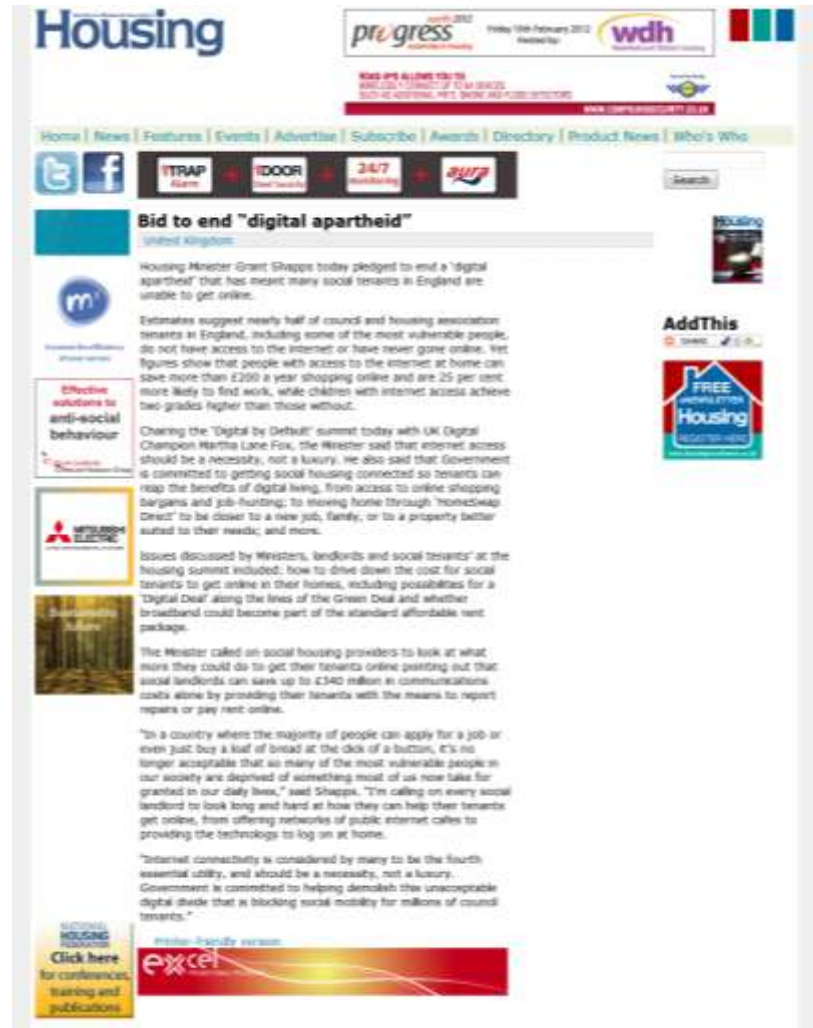
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/broadband/8938499/Council-tenants-in-digital-apartheid.html>



The screenshot shows a news article on The Telegraph website. The main headline is "Council tenants in 'digital apartheid'" with a sub-headline "Housing minister Grant Shapps has pledged to end the 'digital apartheid' that prevents social housing tenants from using the internet." The article features a photograph of Grant Shapps, the Housing Minister, sitting in a red chair. The text discusses the digital divide between council tenants and other groups, mentioning a meeting of the Digital by Default Summit and the role of the Digital Champions group. It also touches upon the challenges of providing broadband to council tenants and the potential for digital inclusion through various initiatives.

ONLINE – 7th December 2011

<http://www.housingexcellence.co.uk/news/bid-end-%E2%80%9Cdigital-apartheid%E2%80%9D-957049>



Housing www.housingexcellence.co.uk

progress April 2012 Friday 10th February 2012 Headline for wdh Widening the Digital Divide

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Bid to end "digital apartheid"

United Kingdom

m Minister for Housing

Housing Minister Grant Shapps today pledged to end a "digital apartheid" that has meant many social tenants in England are unable to get online.

Estimates suggest nearly half of council and housing association tenants in England, including some of the most vulnerable people, do not have access to the internet or have never gone online. Yet figures show that people with access to the internet at home can save more than £200 a year shopping online and are 25 per cent more likely to find work, while children with internet access achieve two grades higher than those without.

Chairing the "Digital by Default" summit today with UK Digital Champion Marina Lane Fox, the Minister said that internet access should be a necessity, not a luxury. He also said that Government is committed to getting social housing connected so tenants can reap the benefits of digital living, from access to online shopping bargains and job-hunting; to moving home through "homeSwap Direct" to be closer to a new job, family, or to a property better suited to their needs; and more.

Issues discussed by Ministers, landlords and social tenants* at the Housing Summit included: how to drive down the cost for social tenants to get online in their homes, including possibilities for a "Digital Deal" along the lines of the Green Deal and whether broadband could become part of the standard affordable rent package.

The Minister called on social housing providers to look at what more they could do to get their tenants online pointing out that social landlords can save up to £340 million in communications costs alone by providing their tenants with the means to report repairs or pay rent online.

"In a country where the majority of people can apply for a job or even just buy a loaf of bread at the click of a button, it's no longer acceptable that so many of the most vulnerable people in our society are deprived of something most of us now take for granted in our daily lives," said Shapps. "I'm calling on every social landlord to look long and hard at how they can help their tenants get online, from offering networks of public internet cafes to providing the technology to log on at home.

"Internet connectivity is considered by many to be the fourth essential utility, and should be a necessity, not a luxury. Government is committed to helping demolish this unacceptable digital divide that is blocking social mobility for millions of council tenants."

*Housing Excellence version

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ONLINE – 6th December 2011

<http://www.insidehousing.co.uk/tenancies/minister-pledges-to-end-%E2%80%98digital-apartheid%E2%80%99/6519450.article>





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Minister pledges to end 'digital apartheid'

6 December 2011 | By [Suzanne Hollister](#), [Claire Holford](#)

Millions of social housing tenants could be set to gain internet access for the first time after housing minister Grant Shapps committed himself to ending 'digital apartheid'.

Chairing a 'Digital by default' summit today, Mr Shapps will say that access to the internet should no longer be considered a luxury but a necessity and pledge government support to get social housing tenants online.

He will also call on social housing providers to do more, claiming that landlords could save up to £340 million in communications costs by allowing tenants to report repairs or pay rent digitally.

Mr Shapps said: 'In a country where the majority of people can apply for a job or even just buy a loaf of bread at the click of a button, it's no longer acceptable that so many of the most vulnerable people in our society are deprived of something most of us now take for granted in our daily lives.'

'I'm calling on every social landlord to look long and hard at how they can help their tenants get online, from offering networks of public internet cafes to providing the technology to log on at home.'

'Internet connectivity should be a necessity, not a luxury, and government is committed to helping demolish this unacceptable digital divide that is blocking social mobility for millions of council tenants.'

The summit will be co-chaired by Martha Lane Fox, who leads the government's push to get more people online. 'Yesterday, Ms Lane Fox said that more than four million tenants are disadvantaged by not having internet access.'

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Housing staff who visit tenants' homes alone are vulnerable to attack, Abnannon Bury kicks off our technology special with a look at how mobile phone systems can help keep them safe
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11/11/2011

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ONLINE – 6th December 2011

http://www.sopo.org/cgi-bin/news.cgi?action=full_story_SOPO&id=1112665&unpub=false&str=&act=search_SOPO&term=&keyword=bool=&websiteId=2


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Minister pledges to abolish 'digital apartheid'

Sector: Central Government

Date: Tue 6th Dec 2011, 14:55:35

URL: <http://www.communities.gov.uk>

Source:

Housing Minister Grant Shapps pledged to end a 'digital apartheid' that has meant many social tenants in England are unable to get online.

Sobering estimates suggest nearly half of council and housing association tenants in England, including some of the most vulnerable people in our communities, do not have access to the internet or have never gone online. People in online households can save more than £200 a year shopping online and are 25 per cent more likely to find work, while children with internet access achieve two grades higher than those without - so it's clear that many low income households are missing out.

Chairing the 'Digital by Default' summit with UK Digital Champion Martha Lane Fox, the Minister said that internet access should be a necessity, not a luxury. He will also say that Government is committed to getting social housing connected so tenants can reap the benefits of digital living, from access to online shopping bargains and job-hunting; to moving home through 'HomeSwap Direct' to be closer to a new job, family, or to a property better suited to their needs; and more.

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ONLINE – 6th December 2011

<http://www.24dash.com/news/housing/2011-12-06-Grant-Shapps-pledges-to-end-digital-apartheid-in-social-housing>



The screenshot shows the 24dash.com website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'dash.com' and various menu items like 'Home', 'Property', 'Business', etc. A prominent banner for '8 Feb 2012 London' is visible. The main article is titled 'Grant Shapps pledges to end digital apartheid in social housing'. The article text discusses the Minister for Housing, Grant Shapps, and his commitment to improving digital connectivity in social housing. It mentions that around 10% of social housing properties currently lack broadband access. Shapps has pledged to ensure that all social housing properties have access to high-speed broadband by 2015. The article also notes that this is part of a wider strategy to improve digital services for tenants and to support the digital economy. A sidebar on the right contains various news snippets and a 'Share this article' section.

ONLINE – 8th December 2011

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/news/8941398/Internet-access-is-the-fourth-utility-and-should-be-prioritised.html>

A screenshot of the Telegraph website showing an article titled "Internet access is the 'fourth utility' and should be prioritised". The article is by Andrew O'Connell and dated 8th December 2011. The main image shows a woman looking at a laptop. The article text discusses the importance of internet access, particularly for the elderly and those in rural areas, and argues that it should be treated as a utility. The page also features a sidebar with related news items and a "More from the Telegraph" section.

ONLINE – 8th December 2011

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/government-computing-network/2011/dec/08/mike-bracken-government-digital-service>



The screenshot shows a Guardian article titled "How to get on digital by default" by Mike Bracken, dated 8 December 2011. The article discusses the government's push for digital services. A photo of Mike Bracken is visible. The page layout includes a main article area, a sidebar with "Related Articles" and "More on this topic", and a footer with social media links and the Guardian logo.

ONLINE – 8th December 2011

<http://www.nma.co.uk/news/government-launches-plan-to-be-%E2%80%98digital-by-default%E2%80%99/3032599.article>



ONLINE – 8th December 2011

<http://www.siliconrepublic.com/strategy/item/24900-uk-launches-government/>

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Senior Licensing Compliance Projects *Microsoft*

UK launches Government Digital Service to drive its online future

08.12.2011

Categories: Government, Consumer Tech, Data Management, Digital Media, Internet, Digital Business
Tag: E-government, Government

Share:     

The British Cabinet Office has officially launched the new Government Digital Service (GDS) this group that will put the UK's digital strategies into effect.

The new GDS will implement a number of strategies that will make the UK one of the leading digital nations in the world, including digital champion Martha Lane Fox's "digital by default" strategy for government services.

"The government in its wider context now has a digital home, and it's from here we can help drive a new generation of digital public services," the executive director of GDS Mike Bracken said today.

"Cross government working, for as long as abstract concepts, is starting to happen around this digital centre. And we will continue to make our doors open to suppliers and partners."

Bracken said a key policy is to have digital experts and public policy experts working in tandem to see what skills take root within the UK government.

"While our objective is the delivery of outstanding digital services which are then targeted (initially) based on user need and demand, the delivery fees up huge savings as a result."

One of the key tasks to accomplish is to simplify UK citizens' access to Government services. At present, users have to navigate some 400 domains.

The GDS has been at work for a number of months now and one of the results is the creation of alpha.gov.uk, a single government web domain and plans are being drawn up for a standard gov.uk pattern.

Minister for Cabinet Office Francis Maude said, "We are determined to offer world-class digital products that meet people's needs and offer better value for taxpayers' money – and that is why we have set up the Government Digital Service."

"The GDS will be the centre for digital government in the UK. It will transform the way people access government information by using digital technology to deliver services that put the user first and give them the simplest and most cost-effective service possible."

To like to thank Martha Lane Fox for helping us to kick off our journey to make our services digital by default and for her continuing support," Maude said.

John Kennedy 

Categories: Government, Consumer Tech, Data Management, Digital Media, Internet, Digital Business
Tag: E-government, Government

Share:     



UK launches Government Digital Service to drive its online future
Digital Champion Martha Lane Fox

ONLINE – 12th December 2011

<http://www.computing.co.uk/ctg/news/2131713/government-launches-digital-service>



The screenshot shows the homepage of the website computing.co.uk. The main article is titled "Government launches its Digital Service" by David Lister, dated 12/14/2011. The article features a large image of Big Ben and discusses the creation of a new digital service for the UK government. The page layout includes a top navigation bar, a left sidebar with a "REALISE" banner, and a right sidebar with various news snippets and a "REALISE" banner at the bottom.

Government launches its Digital Service
 By David Lister 12/14/2011

It's a new dawn for the UK's digital services. The government has announced the creation of a new digital service for the UK, which will be the first of its kind. The service will be a one-stop shop for all digital services, and will be managed by a new body, the Digital Service. The service will be a one-stop shop for all digital services, and will be managed by a new body, the Digital Service.

Further reading

- Government launches its digital service
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ONLINE – 18th December 2011

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/news/8962163/EU-digital-exclusion-is-unacceptable.html>



The screenshot shows a web browser displaying a news article on the Telegraph website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Telegraph logo and various menu options. The main headline reads "EU digital exclusion is 'unacceptable'", with a sub-headline stating "The fact that more than 100 million European Union citizens have never been online is 'unacceptable', says Marisa Lee Fox, the UK's digital ambassador." Below the headline is a photograph of Marisa Lee Fox. The article text discusses the digital divide in Europe, mentioning that the UK has the highest percentage of its population online (87%) compared to other EU countries. It also notes that the UK has the highest percentage of its population with a broadband connection (57%). The article is written by Emma Barnett, Digital Media Editor, and is dated 14 Dec 2011. The page also features a sidebar with related news items and a "TECHNOLOGY NEWS" section with a list of articles.