

Strategic Replatforming of Data Collection systems

Rich Williams
Head of the Data Service

Corero Users Group, Orange Studio, Birmingham – 12 May 2011

Where are we?



- During the Elaboration stage of the Strategic Re-platforming project it was concluded that not all of the scope of Strategic Re-platforming and decommissioning can be delivered to support the business critical dates and within the available funding envelope.
- There was a review of options on what could be delivered within the time frame and cost, whilst maintaining quality and work with the Agency.
- To reduce the risk to the business it has been agreed that this should be a multiyear project and that a reduced set of changes should be made to the Data Collection Suite for delivery ready for 11/12 academic year.
- These changes will meet the current known business / policy changes, as well as moving the Data Collection systems towards the Data Service Blueprint.

Chosen option - summary



- **Single restructured ILR in XML, 'the single ILR'.**
- **2011/12 rollover of the OLDC application and updates to the PIMS, concentrating on essential rollover activities and keeping the number of releases and changes to a minimum**
- **LAD → LARA**
- **Learner Information Suite**
- **Oracle Policy Automation (OPA)**

Single ILR and XML



- To incorporate the move to a single ILR into the data collection process.
- Providers can only return data to the Data Service for 2011/12 in single ILR format.
- ILR flat file to single ILR converter tool - available in the Learner Information Suite (LIS) to combine and convert separate ILR flat files to a single ILR file, as well as merge two or more files in either format into one single ILR file.

Learner Information Suite (LIS)

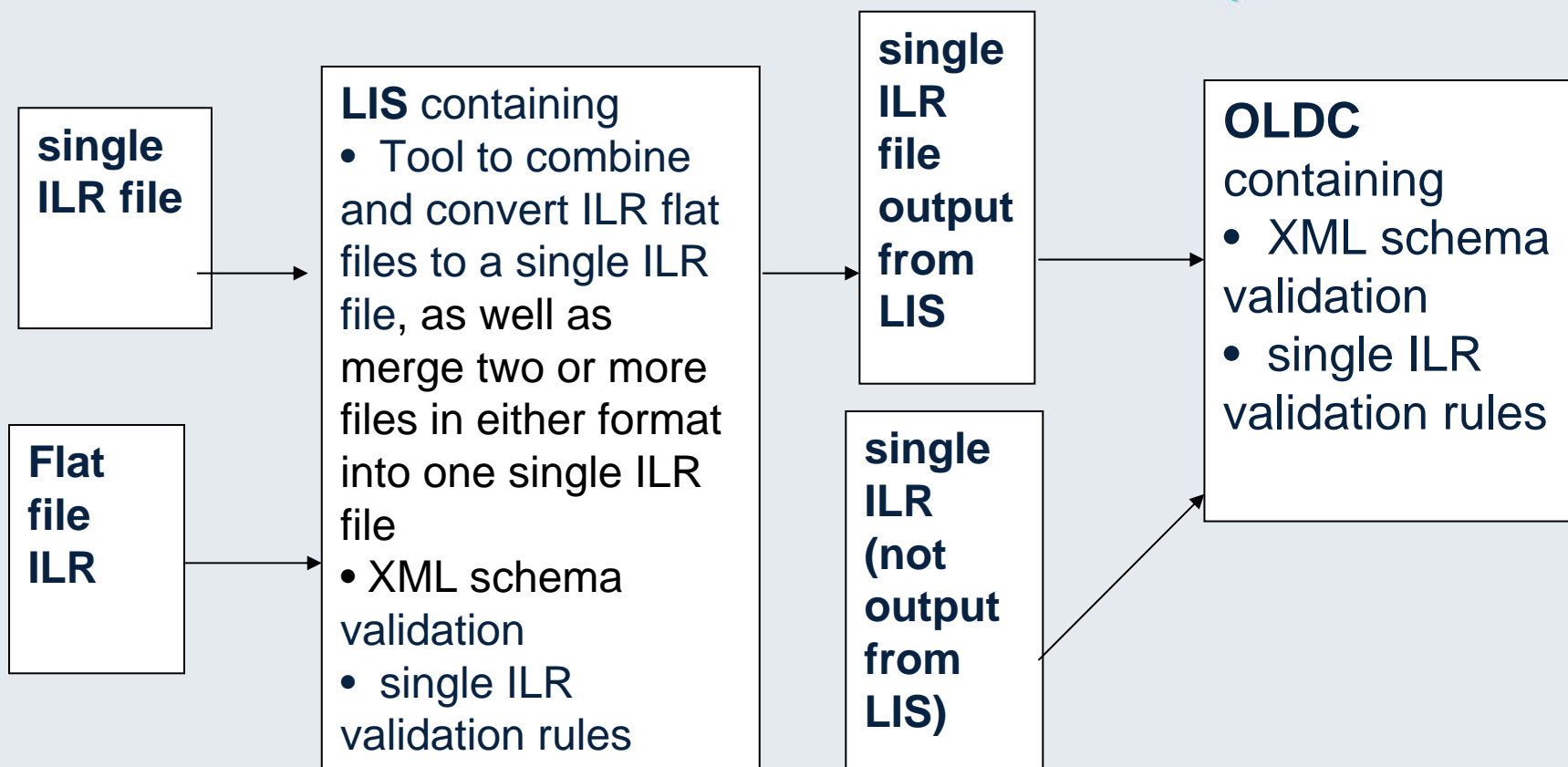


Enhancements include:

- to include the OPA module, to enable greater flexibility in the maintenance of the funding calculation and synchronisation with the OLDC system.
- functionally to convert existing flat file format ILR to a single ILR file as well as merge two or more files in either format into one single ILR file.
- validate both single ILR and flat format ILR files.
- LIS reports - updated in line with any policy changes.

Single ILR

Data collection systems for 2011/12



Oracle Policy Automation (OPA)



- OPA (Oracle Policy Automation) rules being implemented, which will enable the Data Service and business to develop and update business rules and funding calculation changes without major system upgrades and releases, at a lower annual cost.
- Building the capability within LIS desktop and OLDC to use rules defined within Oracle Policy Management, resulting in lower costs.

LAD → LARA



- Replacement of LAD with new Learning Aims solution to support an enhanced Learning Aims Lifecycle.
- LARA – Learning Aim Reference Application.
- Learning Aims data in a new format that provides:
 - Learning Aims for the 2011/12 academic year
 - Ability to import data from authorised sources (Ofqual, DfE, UK-CES, QAA, HEFCE, awarding organisations, learning providers)
- New look and feel, new location.
- Increase system flexibility as well as lowering ongoing maintenance cost by reducing the dependence of bespoke technology.

LAD – will hold historic data



LAD will continue to be available for at least the next 2 years

- LAD and the LAD archive will continue to be available at the current location.
- No changes to LAD planned – Learning Aims for 09/10 and 10/11 will continue to be made available via the LAD website.
- LAD search will continue to be available for 09/10 and 10/11 Learning Aims.
- For a few months LAD will continue to be updated to support 2010/11.
- Currently investigating the possibility that funding and validity information for 2011/12 will be made available on the LAD website in May 2011.

LARA – masters aims for 11/12 onwards



LARA will be the repository for learning aims from 2011/12 onwards

- New database definition for LARA – LARA table and field definitions for 2011/12 document – draft published on **01 March 2011**.
- LARA structure will be based on LAD database.
- Data not relevant to the 11/12 data collection will be removed.
- New data will be added to cater for:
 - Changes to the Agencies' funding systems
 - Units as Learning Aims
 - More transparency in the progress of a Learning Aim
- LARA download for 11/12 and future years will be available from a new location.
- LARA search will be available from a new location.
- Current plan is to have a live populated system in **July 2011**.

Timetable for delivery



LARA

- LARA table and field definitions for 2011/12 document – draft published on **01 March 2011**.
- LARA table and field definitions for 2011/12 document – final version to be published in **July** (dependant on successful testing).
- Beta (basic table structures) - **20 May 2011**.
- LARA live system by **July 2011**.

LIS

- LIS MDB database and guidance – draft published **25 March 2011**.
- LIS interface specification **20 May 2011**.
- LIS Beta **01 June 2011**.
- LIS Provider release **15 July 2011**.
- LIS live deployment **05 August 2011**.

OLDC

- OLDC live deployment **22 August 2011**.

Contact us:



Service Desk: 0870 2670001

Email: theservicedesk@thedata-service.org.uk

www.thedata-service.org.uk

web: www.thedata-service.org.uk

Service Desk tel: 0870 267 0001