

Peer Review - Interim Review Report

(To be completed during the life of the project as deemed appropriate by the Review Team).

Project Title: **Biometrics in Irish Passports**

Project Sponsor: **Mr Ray Bassett**

Sponsor Contact: **Mr Joe Nugent**

Project Team: **Ms Deirdre Fannin, Project Manager**
 Ms Assumpta Griffin, ICT Unit
 Mr Brian Mulligan, Passport Office
 Mr Philip Murphy, Passport Office Contracts Project
 Manager

Guide to completing Report:

This report should be completed in electronic form only. All questions should be answered by the review team by providing a tick in the appropriate box and by outlining the review team's comments in relation to a particular question directly below that question. While it is not necessary for the review team to comment on all of their responses, the questions posed at an Interim Review would normally require some degree of qualification.

The review team is also asked to include its **General Comments** and **Overall Findings** in the spaces provided at the end of the report.

1. Is the review team satisfied that the project will be completed on time?

Yes	No	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Review Team Comments

The project team have advised that all deliverables due up to this point have been received and that the project is still on target to meet the specified timescale.

There are no changes or additions to the project scope and an optional item that would have adversely affected the project timescales has been deferred.

2. Is the review team satisfied that the project will come in on budget?

Yes	No	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Review Team Comments

The project team have advised that the project is on budget.

No unexpected costs have arisen and there have been no change requests to date. The Project Board have decided to engage a second independent company to undertake testing and the costs associated with this can be accommodated within the contingency fund without affecting the overall budget.

3. Are all business change requirements being monitored on an ongoing basis?

Yes	No	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Review Team Comments

Issues around the quality of photographs are being actively pursued.

A process of internal communication and training is underway.

4. Have the needs of the business and/or end users changed?

Yes	No	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Review Team Comments

5. Has the project scope changed in any way?

Yes	No	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Review Team Comments

The only change has been in respect of what was originally an 'optional' item - the 'one to few and one to many' facial matching. [withheld under Freedom of Information exemptions]. The analysis and development associated with this option would affect the timescales if it were to proceed at this stage.

6. Is the review team satisfied that the project is under effective control?

Yes	No	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Review Team Comments

The project is proceeding on target and within budget and appropriate governance structures are in place.

7. Is the review team satisfied with the risk management strategy in place?

Yes	No	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Review Team Comments

The review team noted that the risk register had been updated and suggested that 'closed' items remain on the register.

8. Do the roles, responsibilities and performance criteria for the governance of the project management continue to be clearly defined and in place?

Yes	No	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Review Team Comments

All governance structures (Project Board, Steering Group and Project Team) are in place and meet regularly.

9. Are the staffing resources identified as critical to successful project implementation in place?

Yes	No	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Review Team Comments

The core project team is supplemented as necessary. The UAT team is in place. Implementation planning is underway.

The review team suggested that despite the significant effort being put in to address the issues around the quality of photographs, the rate of rejection of the photographs in the initial stages may have resource implications.

10. Is the review team satisfied that there are workable and tested contingency and reversion plans in place for roll-out, implementation and operation?

Yes	No	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Review Team Comments

In the event that any difficulties arise with the new production facility, production can be switched back to the current operation.

[Withheld under Freedom of Information exemptions]

General comments of Peer Review Team:

The review team noted that, to date, public acceptance of the biometric passport seems to be positive and that the FAQs prepared by the project team address the issues raised. While this is welcome, previous experience elsewhere would suggest that sometimes resistance may only arise at the deployment stage.

While acknowledging the efforts already underway, it was suggested that a robust information dissemination exercise will be necessary with regard to the quality of photographs, particularly at post offices and garda stations.

The review team noted that a private facility will be provided whereby a member of the public can view the data contained on the chip on his/her passport.

Overall Findings of Peer Review Team:

The project continues to progress on time and within budget with no significant issues arising at this point.