

Questions/Answers/Statements Summary

Questions

- Q1.** Commons and Lords Table Office Publish Questions
- Q2.** eQM Syncer and LBIS Syncer picks up question and puts into DDP
- Q3.** AzureSync calls DDP every 10 minutes to pick up newly published questions, which it then sends to QnA WebApiPrivate service.
- Q4.** The QnA WebApiPrivate service puts the question into SQL database via the QnA WCF services
- Q5.** The QnA Data Service Importer (Windows Service) picks up the Questions from DDP and writes it to the QnA_WebServices database
- Q6.** Questions from the QnA_WebServices database then go through the datasync to the external QnA_WebServices database hosted on the Prod-Ext Azure subscription
- Q7.** The Questions-Statements website then gets the data from the API and shows the Questions on the website

Answers

- A1.** Answering Body download questions from the QnA Web admin application and submit answers to QnA Web.
- A2.** QnA WCF Services puts answers in the database
- A3.** The Notification Engine sees the answer and emails members and users of the QnA Web portal. This is mainly for sending the Answers directly to Members as soon as they are received, but also includes Q&A password reset notifications, alerts for changes to question text or answer corrections.
- A4.** The AnswerRetrieval scheduled task calls the Azure service QnAWebApiPrivate and asks it for all the answers in the AnswerQueue Azure database table using the call `https://api.wqapivate.parliament.uk/api/qais/private/answers?delivered=false`. It will receive a list of answers back from the API, and the console application will then put each statement into DDP, alongside the question it applies to, in a file with a .answerxml suffix.
- A5.** The QnA Data Service Importer (Windows Service) picks up the Answers from DDP and writes it to the QnA_WebServices database
- A6.** Answers from the QnA_WebServices database then go through the datasync to the external QnA_WebServices database hosted on the Prod-Ext Azure subscription
- A7.** The Questions-Statements website then gets the data from the API and shows the Answers on the website

Written Statements

- S1.** Answering bodies submit Written Statement to QnA Web
- S2.** Email gets sent to House of Commons and house of Lords gatekeepers to review the statement. When accepted by the gatekeepers another email is sent to the Answering body department notifying them of acceptance.
- S3.** The QnA WebApiPrivate service puts the question into SQL database via the QnA WCF services
- S4.** The WrittenStatementRetrieval scheduled task calls the Azure service QnAWebApiPrivate and asks it for all the statements in the StatementsQueue Azure database table using the call `https://api.wqapivate.parliament.uk/api/qais/private/writtenstatements?delivered=false`. It will receive a list of statements back from the API, and the console application will then put each statement into DDP
- S5.** The QnA Data Service Importer (Windows Service) picks up the Statements from DDP and writes It to the QnA_WebServices database
- S6.** Statements from the QnA_WebServices database then go through the datasync to the external QnA_WebServices database hosted on the Prod-Ext Azure subscription
- S7.** The Questions-Statements website then gets the data from the API and displays the Statements on the website

Virus Scanner

- V1:** Document is added in QnA Web
- V2:** QnA WCF services gets the document from QnA Web
- V3:** Virus Scanner Function App runs every 15 minutes, checks if there is a document to scan and notifies the QnA WCF Service
- V4:** The External Virus Scanning API then gets the document from QnA WCF Service and scans the document, reporting it as failed or successful. If successful it will be downloadable from the QnA Web application

Note: The Virus Scanner Function App is only a triggered task that runs every 15 minutes to check if there is a document to scan. The External Virus Scanning API in the Prod-Ext Azure subscription is the service that scans the document

Further Notes – Phase 1 Changes

- Authentication:**
- Internal Users** – Internal users in Parliament will be authenticated using SSO and MFA
- External Users** – External Users (Answering Bodies) will be authenticated using MFA. All passwords are hashed and salted using bcrypt with MFA implemented via an open source package.
- Cloudflare** – QnA Web and QnA WCF Services integrate with Cloudflare as this is used to store and manage IP addresses.
- Session** – Currently session is managed in QnA and manual config changes are required. Phase 1 changes now allow it to be managed by the Calendar Service through EQM and LBIS applications.
- Azure Resources** – All Azure resources in the Prod-Int subscription are new for Phase 1. The QnA Web, WCF Services, WebApiPrivate and WebApi, TSXMLToWord have now changed from Cloud Services to App Services. The Virus Scanner and Status Changer were previously scheduled tasks but are now Function Apps.

Environment

PN = Parliamentary Network

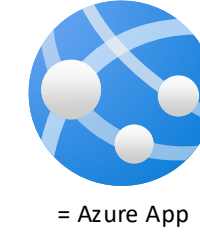
Prod-Int = Azure subscription called BespokeDevLive-Internal

Prod-Ext = Azure subscription called BespokeDevLive

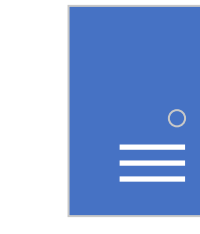
Prod – Written Questions & Answers = Azure subscription where the QnA database is hosted



= Azure Function Apps



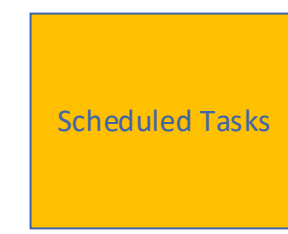
= Azure App Service



= On-Prem hosted application (Unchanged)



= SQL Database



Scheduled Tasks



= Azure AD

Further information on the Q&A Internal Applications can be found [here](#)

DDP.HLD