

Effective from 14 January 2008

Release of new 'personalised community web search' facility on IDeA Communities of Practice (CoP) Platform

The IDeA's Knowledge and Learning Team is pleased to announce a significant new enhancement to their Communities of Practice (CoP) web platform. With immediate effect, all CoPs now have a facility for creating a personalised community list of websites that will enable more focussed and relevant search results to be returned for their particular domain of interest. Members have the ability to select or deselect any of the web sites in the community list for each web search query they submit, providing greater control over the number and relevance of results returned. Members of the CoP can suggest web sites to be included in the community list, which is managed by the CoP Facilitator.

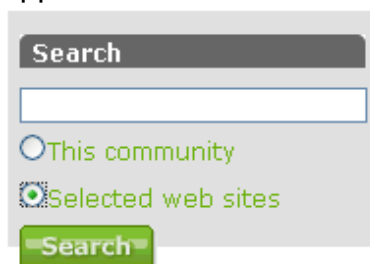
What makes this feature so special?

Registered members have always had the facility to search for content within the CoP platform. A wider search on the web required use of a commercial service such as Google. The problem with this is that the search will retrieve results from (potentially) many millions of web sites, which has the effect of reducing the precision of the search results.

Having a personalised community list of web sites has the effect of narrowing the web search to just these sites, which the community members will have previously verified as having content more relevant to their domain of interest. For example, a search for 'Local Area Agreements' on Google returns almost 49 million results. A similar search limited to the Regional Centre of Excellence web sites returns 136 results, all of which are likely to have more contextual relevance than the wider web search.

How do community members access this new feature?

Once the CoP Facilitator has set up at least one web site in the community list, an additional link will appear under the search box. The new link will appear as 'Selected websites'.



The search term is entered into the search box as usual, and clicking on the 'Selected websites' link will submit the search term to just the personalised community list of web sites. The results will be shown on a new search results page, which also shows the personalised

community list in the right hand column. The user can further refine the results set by selecting or de-selecting individual web sites from the community list and re-submitting the search term.

Search results

You searched for: **neighbourhood watch**

98 results in web sites | [0 results in this Community](#)

View 8 per page

In selected web sites 98 results

[Neighbourhood Watch Schemes - Devon & Cornwall Constabulary](#)

Neighbourhood Watch If you are a member of a **Neighbourhood Watch** Scheme you are much less ... **Neighbourhood Watch** Schemes in Devon and Cornwall come ... www.devon-cornwall.police.uk

[Neighbourhood watch - \(Text-only version\) - Devon & Cornwall Constabulary](#)

Neighbourhood Watch This site is AAA Bobby™ Approved for Accessibility Here are the main ... Have you seen this **watch**? It is a Sekonda diver's type wrist **watch** ... www.devon-cornwall.police.uk

[Neighbourhood Policing - Gorwell and Fort Hill Beat Summary](#)

This can be done via **Neighbourhood Watch** Groups or a free automated messaging service called ... not have any **Neighbourhood Watch** schemes or recipients ... www.devon-cornwall.police.uk

[Neighbourhood Policing - Beat Update from PC Philip Smith](#)

... contacted me and expressed an interest in starting a **Neighbourhood Watch** Scheme. ... would like to start a **Neighbourhood Watch** Scheme in their area, ... www.devon-cornwall.police.uk

[Neighbourhood Policing - Whiddon Valley Beat Summary](#)

I am keen to assist in regenerating **neighbourhood watch** in the Whiddon Valley area and recently ... or very little **neighbourhood watch** input. www.devon-cornwall.police.uk

Search web sites

Sites searched

- Neighbourhood Policing Programme
- Devon and Cornwall Constabulary
- Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman
- LACORS
- Essex County Council

How is the personalised community list administered?

Administration of the community web site list is the responsibility of the CoP Facilitator. CoP members can ask the Facilitator to add or delete sites from the list as part of the normal community collaboration process. The Facilitator has access to a personalised search administration page, which enables web

sites to be added or deleted simply and quickly.

Edit Search Sites for this community

You can add up to a maximum of 20 sites. The order of the websites has no effect on the returned results.

Order	Site	Description
<input type="checkbox"/> ↕ ↕	Neighbourhood Policing Programme	Neighbourhood policing is the police services commitment to improving your quality of life by working together with partners, targeting the issues that you identify as those that matter.
<input type="checkbox"/> ↕ ↕	Devon and Cornwall Constabulary	An overview of policing in Devon & Cornwall, including the Force structure and corporate partnerships.
<input type="checkbox"/> ↕ ↕	Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman	The role of PHSO is to provide a service to the public by undertaking independent investigations into complaints about government departments, a range of other public bodies in the UK, and the National Health Service in England.
<input type="checkbox"/> ↕ ↕	LACORS	Local Authorities Coordinators of Regulatory Services (LACORS). Provides advice and guidance to help support local authority regulatory and

Actions

Community members will always know which sites are included in the community list because they appear alongside their search results for all search queries.

What search engine is being used to perform the web search?

The IDeA have an agreement with Exalead (<http://www.exalead.co.uk>) to provide the underlying web search functionality. This is a non-commercial agreement but requires the IDeA to display the Exalead logo and link on the search results page. The IDeA may also be mentioned in promotional literature produced by Exalead.

Where can I get further information about this new feature, and what do I do if I have problems?

Information about the new feature can be found in the FAQ's (see [Help](#) link at the foot of each community web page).

The IDeA provide a full support service for the CoP platform (www.communities.idea.gov.uk) during working hours. Further information about the personalised community search, suggestions for improvement or any problems with the service can be notified to the support team at: communities@idea.gov.uk, or by clicking on the '[Feedback](#)' button at the foot of each community web page.