

Scottish College Information Leads (SCIL)

Draft minutes

Friday 17th of June 2016

Stirling Business Centre, Stirling

Present:

David Black	West College Scotland	DB
Terry Trundle	Edinburgh College	TT
Fraser Wight	Borders College	FW
Kris Getchell	Dundee and Angus College	KG
Linda Young	South Lanarkshire College	LY
Scott Renton	Glasgow Clyde College	SR
Tom MacMaster	Fife College	TMacM
Jason Miles-Campbell	Jisc	JMC
Pauline Robertson	UCSS	PR
Angus Warren	APUC/UCSS	AW
Owen Freel	UCSS- Note-taker	OF

Apologies

Dave Swan	Ayrshire College
Scott Matthew	North East College
Brian Smillie	West Lothian College
Jane Ollerenshaw	West Highland College
Eric Dunbar	Dumfries and Galloway College
Andy Laszlo-	Glasgow Kelvin College
Kenji Lamb-	CDN
John Maher	University of the Highlands and Islands
David Allison	Forth Valley College
Mike MacDonald-	Universities of the Highlands and Islands
Scott Matthew-	North East College Scotland

(Introductory comment- This meeting was chaired by David Black of West College Scotland. Future meetings will be chaired alternatively by Terry Trundle of Edinburgh College and David.)

1. Welcome and Apologies

Angus Warren (AW) welcomed the group and suggested a round-the-table introduction. Following the introductions David Black assumed the role of Chair and thanked the group for attending. The chair suggested bringing Items 4 and 5 on the agenda forward to allow presenters to go first. (Items 4 and 5 on the agenda are here numbered 2 and 3 respectively.) The previous minutes of SCIL was accepted with no challenges (other than one observation of a spelling mistake where SUPC was transcribed as SPUC)

2. Moodle

James Blair (JB) and Iain Bruce (IB) of Edinburgh Napier University presented on the MoodleShare Shared Service. A founder member of MoodleShare TT stated that this was working very well.

JB gave ENUs background with Moodle; investment in infrastructure, multi campus resilience and multi data centre capability- and realisation they could offer to help other institutions. JB outlined the genesis of the co-operation with Edinburgh College which evolved into a Shared Service. This service has now been running for almost a year and ENU are happy to offer this to other interested institutions. EC has experienced over 99.7% uptime for their Moodle Service. Work has been done on automated registration of students on Moodle fed by other College systems improving the student experience and less intervention required by staff upon registration. Mahara for Edinburgh College is also hosted by MoodleShare.

TT characterised the success of the above as resulting in less grief for the College.

Details around possibility of providing Live, Mirrored and Test environments as well as separate environment for staff development.

JB stated always happy to discuss this model further with interested institutions.

IB then gave further technical details behind the offering. MoodleShare is moving to multi-tenant model which increases ability to monitor and control the service. MoodleShare are happy to perform development work if required for partners- MoodleShare does not require that partners adopt same environment as original partners- development and upgrades can be performed for one institution without impacting the other institutions. Teaching and Learning elements of Moodle stays within the partner institution. Extended out of hours service offer explained. MoodleShare work to the ITIL model, change control procedures have been established to ensure control and minimise risk.

ACTION OF to share video of Moodle with group.

3. Cyber Resilience at Dundee and Angus College

KG gave an open and interesting overview of the evolution of maturity of understanding towards InfoSec Risks and Institutional posture. KG's presentation was very open and frank.

KG observed that previously IT have been responsible both for setting goals and measuring themselves against these goals.

KG related his institution's experience of toll fraud, and the fact that he is aware that there are more institutions that have been similarly targeted. (An interesting discussion then took place around the technology used in this attack.)

KG related initiatives within his institution, signing up to the UCSS CISO Shared Service, looking to get buy-in for simulated phishing attacks and others.

4. Round Table inputs from IS Leads

Each Institution's leads then gave an update on the initiatives and areas of interest at present. Some interesting discussions took place off the back of these updates-

Financing of purchases under the ONS rules was discussed. AW stated that if required desired payment terms can be put into tender for suppliers to respond to. The Chair noted that there is a 10 year infrastructure planning group which David Beards sits on. KG and TT stated they were members of the Colleges Capital Working Group- stated that this seems to be Estates (rather than ICT) focussed at present.

AW stated his belief that SCIL is well positioned as a group to contribute to the Capital Working Group. The Chair agreed that it would be sensible to use this group to influence the Capital Working Group.

An interesting conversation took place on the perceived benefits of desktop virtualisation. The consensus seemed to be that virtualisation does offer advantages (management time, enable cross campus/remote working etc. but financially it is not an obvious saving (though hidden savings of using less space, less power does offer hidden savings).

ONS spend constraints around consultancy and support was discussed.

The desirability of accessing an "IT Trainer" was discussed.

Desktop Support was raised as a possible candidate for Shared Service (made more compelling due to opportunities offered by visualisation).

Discussion on next meeting

The group consulted with diaries and proposed the 22nd of September 2016 for the next meeting. A discussion on how best to engage those unable to make the Q2 meeting to ensure momentum going forward was discussed. A number of members offered to approach colleagues in other institutions to stress the value of these meetings and to encourage participation.

The ability to convene some future meetings electronically was discussed. **ACTION: ISSC will test Skype for Business logistics for future meetings** (possibility of one or two meetings after Q3 being electronic as opposed to physical).

ACTION Chair(s): Format of future meetings to be added to next agenda.

REQUEST: All members of SCIL are asked to consider contributing possible future topics for agenda.

5. Procurement Update from APUC

AW provided update on APUC (MMcL was unavailable due to large piece of work taking place concurrently).

APUC recently taken on 3 graduates- 1 of these, Freya Lyte, is working in the IS Team and will begin working on an Assistive Technologies framework.

APUC led Framework Agreements

Anti-Plagiarism

A procurement strategy has been developed for discussion and approval from a sector working group which met on June 2nd. The specification is under development with a view to implementing early in 2017.

VLE Platforms

A "VLE Market Awareness Day" undertaken with key sector stakeholders including major suppliers within the VLE market. A draft procurement strategy has been developed. Next steps include developing a tender specification, with a target commencement date of January 2017.

Scottish Procurement

Mobile Devices

As a result of the declining £/\$ exchange rate since the framework was awarded in November 2015, there will be a 7.4% price increase applied to devices and accessories, new pricing was effective on 6 June 2016. Pricing for services will remain unchanged.

IT Peripherals

SP has invoked the first 12 month extension and the agreement will now expire 31st July 2017.

Tablet Devices

The current agreement expired 27th May 2016. A new agreement will not be in place until end of June 2017. Interim procurement options are Apple Products agreement or NDNA.

SR observed that the warranty agreement available via this agreement was welcome, and good that available to staff and students. AW stated that staff and student uptake drives savings via volume.

HEPCW – Apple Agreement

The new agreement commenced 1st April 2016, awarded to 4 resellers - Academia, Insight, Stone Computers, XMA. Call off Direct Award Stone ranked 1st, "Desktop Evaluation" or Mini Comp. A benchmarking exercise has been conducted on behalf of the sector that demonstrates significant benefits versus standard Apple education pricing. Agreement also available for student and staff purchases.

SUPC

Servers, Storage and Solutions National Agreement

This is a re-let of the National Servers and Storage Agreement (NSSA), which expires on 31st July 2016. The tender return date was 26th May 2016. The new agreement will start in August and will include High Performance computing options. This is a well-used agreement in the sector.

ITRAP (IT Related Accessories & Parts)

A new agreement to start 1st June 2016. Single Lot with 6 resellers appointed. Call off from the framework is either by ranking of the agreement or by further competition.

Software Licence Resellers Agreement

SUPC is retendering the software agreement, which will be split into lots as follows.

- Lot 1 – Microsoft and Associated Services
- Lot 2 – Adobe – division of this lot into two sub-lots: Sub Lot A – ETLA Agreements
Sub-Lot B – Other Adobe Products
- Lot 3 – VMware
- Lot 4 – Other – division of this lot into sub lots as follows:
 - Off the shelf Software including Data Centre and Cloud Software
 - IT Security Software
- Lot 5 - Software Services including but not limited to Software Asset Management, auditing, consultancy

National Education Printer Agreement

The new NEPA agreement is available with immediate effect. The new agreement is for a 2 year period until the 31st March 2018, with the option to extend by invoking two 1 year extensions.

The agreement is multi-lot as shown below:

Lot 1 - Non Managed Print Equipment
Lot 2 - Managed Print Equipment & Services
Lot 3 - Print Production Equipment & Related Service
Lot 4 - One Stop Shop for Print Equipment & Services (Lots 1 & 2)
Lot 5 - Independent Print Audit Service

Call off will be by means of ranking or mini –competition.

This agreement is not generally favoured in the sector, as the Scottish Procurement Office Equipment framework follows.

6. Summary of New Shared Service Activities & ISSC

PR, being conscious of time, gave a brief update.

InfoSec Shared Service progressing, new CISO starts with UCSS on Monday 20th of June. The Shared Service has 9 members signed up, 7/8 others seeking budget. An event for those interested but not yet signed up will be organised by the ISSC. AW reinforced that the Steering Group of the InfoSec Shared Service shapes the offering, and chooses how to allocate money to new elements of InfoSec going forward.

PR briefed the group on candidate shared services- Project Managers, Business Analysts and DBA's being evaluated as potential offering. Helpdesk is currently being researched- if an appetite for Out of Hours exists PR asked that institutions flag to ISSC.

ACTION: Chair to provide PR with an Agenda item next meeting to cover content of SCIL website.

7. Update from Jisc

JMC updated on Jisc activities. Migration of EastMan and Clydenet almost complete. News on upgrades to follow. JMC expects more information following DDoS attacks around ensuring resilience- a meeting will be called to disseminate this information.

Scottish JANET Usergroup will be restarted.

JMC highlighted recent event at Heriot-Watt University around digital classrooms.

JMC stated that ISO27001 training at discounted rate will be available to SCIL member's staff.

ACTION: JMC to provide details of this training opportunity to SCIL members

Jisc have been working recently on Learning Space Design, and Telephony purchasing.

JMC stated that he had been asked questions by Librarians as to whether IS includes Libraries.

Jill Evans of SCURL has asked to be connected with SCIL.

JMC suggested that Regional Chairs may be good people to connect with SCIL.

JMC asked who would be the owner of the SCIL domain name. AW offered to host the SCIL domain, the Chair agreed.

8. AOB

The next meeting will be at the same location on the 22nd of September 2016.