

Paper B - Report from Head of Computing 2022-02-08

EdLAN replacement project

The EdLAN replacement project has been further delayed by the realisation that the current model of Wireless Access Point (WAP) deployed throughout the University reaches end of support in April 2022. Accordingly, the project board agreed to raise the priority of replacing all the WAPs (~1600) across the University estate. The Wireless Access Points (WAPs) in Bayes and the Forum were replaced in January. This work has further setback the rollout of the replacement EdLAN and impacted on IS's ability to engage with us to test how our office desktops, etc, will work with the new EdLAN network at the edge. However, we have been able to progress prototyping code to synchronise data between our management systems and the new EdLAN management systems.

Recent incidents

REDACTED

IS developments

- Azure - the University has arranged with Microsoft for a charged-for cloud compute service which will allow direct charging to research grants (with controls). The service is being piloted by others in Science and Engineering and is expected to be fully live in Summer 2022.
- A proposal to change the ordering of the display name in Active Directory/Microsoft 365 from SURNAME Firstname format to Firstname Surname format is being submitted to ITC for approval.
- IS have secured £200,000 funding to replace the GPUs in the Eddie and Eleanor services. We have an opportunity to influence the shape of this service. IS are keen for grants to buy in to this service (ie top-up the £200,000 funding).