

### Union Webserver

A Paper by the Deputy President (Finance & Service)  
Seconded by Ashley Brown (Union System Administrator)

The Union Webserver ("heeps") was purchased in 2002 and is currently misbehaving with two backups failures in the space of a week. Union system administrators have noted that the server has become increasingly erratic and occasionally is overwhelmed. Additionally, the server is very close to reaching its hard drive capacity. All these signs indicate that the server is reaching the end of its lifetime and may fail in the next few months. It is also worth noting that the server has not actually been upgraded since it was purchased in 2002.

The Union webserver is held within the ICT data centre, with the option of utilising the Linux webfarm has been explored but is not adequate for our needs (notably the access requirements).

As some of you may be aware, the Union webserver hosts over 240 individual websites and serves over 2 million requests a week. It also holds the elections software and as such, should the server fail the entire elections would be placed in jeopardy.

#### Decision Required

- 1) To allocate a maximum of £2,000.00 (excluding VAT) of Executive Reserve to replace the Union webserver.

CL 15/02/08