Energy-saving / green issues in IT Support and Audio Visual

Printers
All printers are under three years old, with many of the energy saving features that older models lacked (lower fusing temperatures, toner-saving, sleep modes).

Toners are recycled through a Cartridge Return Scheme. Danwood supplies UCB with large cardboard boxes for the toners, then collect them as the boxes are filled. This service is free to UCB.

'Sleep Mode' is activated on all printers when they are delivered. This varies between 30 minutes and 4 hours, depending on location. As a rough guide, student printers have a long sleep delay (2-4 hours); staff printers have a short delay (typically 30-60 minutes).

Duplex mono printing is enforced by default on all student printers; this can be turned off by the student if required. Staff printers are currently being updated with this feature. As a result of this, paper purchasing has been cut back. This has been achieved by using a 'Pull Printing' solution. Students no longer waste paper, as they only print out what they need.

Toners
All used toner cartridges are collected at central points around UCB. These are collected at different intervals and boxed up for collection by HP for recycling.

PCs
All student PCs have been replaced in the last 3 years. These newer PCs (Lenovo All-in-One) have lower power consumption than the PCs they replaced. Staff PCs are being upgraded/replaced as required. Academic staff have new Dell 9020 All-in-One PCs, support staff have Dell Vostro PCs. The old PCs that are replaced are either sold to staff for a minimal cost, given away to local schools and charities or disposed of in accordance with WEEE directives.

The student PCs that are controlled with the MyPC booking software automatically switch off each night when the booking areas close (mostly at 9pm). Those PCs that aren't MyPC controlled (typically in the computer suites) are switched off at night via a policy setting on the workstation.

TVs / Videos / Projectors
As older AV units reach the end of their life, they are sold to staff for a minimal cost, given away to schools or charities or disposed of in accordance with WEEE directives. Generally TVs are not being replaced; instead AV material is being displayed through the projector onto a screen/Smartboard.

The University now ensures that any projectors that are purchased are energy-efficient, and that power saving modes and lamp life are taken into consideration.

Other
To save paper and printing costs, the HE Students Handbook in now made available on a USB pen drive rather than as a printed document. This is given to each student at enrolment time. The USB pens can then be reused by the student.

The University is investing in server virtualisation, which in the long run will reduce the number of additional servers that are purchased. There are also savings in power usage, and ultimately this will lead to a reduction in the number of physical servers the University runs.

Our targets for the next five years

- Enforce mono duplex printing on all staff printing

- Reduce paper usage in all areas of the University

- Keep staff & student PC hardware up to date

- Reuse and recycle all IT equipment where possible

- Ensure PC equipment is switched off at night / weekend

- Consider energy saving features when purchasing new equipment