

FUNDING REQUESTED BY ACTIVITY

Central Services

1. The Central Services budget includes funding to support JISC's committees (honoraria, travel and subsistence for the members), JISC Executive staff and office costs and organisational infrastructure costs (eg. personnel, IT support, document management, website, staff training). It also includes JISC-wide service costs (ie. communications activities, the JISC Monitoring Unit¹ and generic evaluation activities).
2. This budget covers the costs of services provided to the JISC Executive by HEFCE including general support in Northavon House, and personnel support, IT support etc. to the wider Executive. This is provided through HEFCE's running cost budget.
3. For 2007-08 AY, the budget recommended for Central Services is **£6.187m**. Summary details are contained in the following table (£ million):

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Policy & Corporate Services (PCS)	0.09	0.107	0.11	0.11	0.12
P&CS Running Costs	0.80	0.844	0.87	0.90	0.92
P&CS Committee Support	0.19	0.195	0.20	0.21	0.21
P&CS Office costs ²	0.49	0.395	0.51	0.53	0.54
Development	1.04	1.260	1.30	1.34	1.38
Services ³	0.38	0.336	0.35	0.36	0.37
Outreach	0.94	1.204	1.17	1.20	1.24
Services provided by HEFCE	0.29	0.299	0.31	0.32	0.33
JISC wide services	0.95	1.103	1.12	1.16	1.19
JISC Executive Infrastructure	0.22	0.445	0.24	0.25	0.25
Total	5.40	6.187	6.18	6.36	6.55

4. The Central Services budget recommendation indicates a 10% increase on the 2006-07 costs. This is due to the addition of VAT on the costs of hosting the JISC Executive offices at the University of Bristol and Kings College, London. VAT was not previously identified on these items but a recent review by Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC) on HEFCE's VAT liabilities has recommended that there is a VAT liability on these items because the host institutions are providing a service to JISC and not the sector. The areas most affected are budget lines including salaries, travel & subsistence, office costs, overheads and the management costs of JISC programmes. The additional cost is included in the overall budget recommendation.

¹ <http://www.mu.jisc.ac.uk>

² This budget line has reduced as The JISC Content Procurement Company will be contributing £100k to the rental costs of Brettenham House.

³ This budget has reduced as the JISC Collections Team are now employed by the JISC Content Procurement Company

Content Services

5. The role of JISC Content Services is to build a collection of scholarly and educational online resources, especially in support of research, learning and teaching activity within college, university and research institutions.

6. The JISC Content Services work programme is in support of a number of JISC's strategic aims, particularly:

- To deliver innovative and sustainable ICT infrastructure, services and practice that support institutions in meeting their mission;
- To promote the development, uptake and effective use of ICT to support learning and teaching;
- To support the uptake and effective use of e-research.

7. The funding recommended for content services in the 2007-08 Academic Year is **£10.21 million**. The total is made up as follows (£ million):

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Services (incl. Content Company)	6.71	7.11	7.45	7.75	8.08
Content Activities	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Programme Management & Evaluation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Communications & Outreach	0.04	0.10	0.10	0.12	0.12
Total	9.75	10.21	10.55	10.87	11.20

8. Services: A number of services are funded to host digital resources; collect, catalogue, manage and preserve; and provide information about and access to high quality online information resources. The services are categorised into resource discovery, infrastructure, advisory/expert and service enhancement/supporting activity.

9. The funding recommended for services in 2007-08 AY is £7.11 million. The allocation of this funding is as follows (£ million):

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Resource Discovery services	2.63	2.63	2.47	2.35	2.24
- SUNCAT ⁴		(0.52)	(0.53)	(0.54)	(0.55)
- Intute ⁵		(1.50)	(1.30)	(1.15)	(1.00)
- COPAC ⁶		(0.20)	(0.22)	(0.22)	(0.23)
- Zetoc ⁷		(0.12)	(0.12)	(0.13)	(0.13)
- Archives Hub ⁸		(0.29)	(0.30)	(0.31)	(0.33)
- Biz/ed		(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
Infrastructure services	3.20	3.03	3.28	3.36	3.44
• Datacentre base costs ⁹		(0.30)	(0.33)	(0.34)	(0.34)
10		(0.04)	(0.04)	(0.04)	(0.04)
• Open URL		(0.24)	(0.25)	(0.26)	(0.28)
		(1.24)	(1.26)	(1.30)	(1.33)

⁴ Serials Union Catalogue (SUNCAT) <http://www.suncat.ac.uk/>

⁵ Intute (previously the Resource Discovery network) <http://www.intute.ac.uk/>

⁶ CURL Union Catalogue (COPAC) <http://www.copac.ac.uk/>

⁷ The British Library Electronic Table of Contents (ZETOC) <http://zetoc.mimas.ac.uk/>

⁸ Archives Hub <http://www.archiveshub.ac.uk/>

⁹ Edinburgh Data and Information Access (Edina) <http://www.edina.ac.uk>

¹⁰ Manchester Information and Associated Services (MIMAS) <http://www.mimas.ac.uk>

Router		(0.30)	(0.30)	(0.30)	(0.30)
• Satellite images ¹¹		(0.25)	(0.25)	(0.25)	(0.25)
• JISC Collections ¹²		(0.66)	(0.50)	(0.50)	(0.50)
• AHDS ¹³		(0.00)	(0.35)	(0.37)	(0.40)
• ESDS ¹⁴					
- Athens ¹⁵					
- Jorum					
Advisory/Expert services	0.63	0.98	1.00	1.04	1.06
- BUFVC ¹⁶		(0.51)	(0.52)	(0.55)	(0.56)
- TASI ¹⁷		(0.47)	(0.48)	(0.49)	(0.50)
Service enhancement/ supporting activity	0.25	0.47	0.70	1.00	1.34
Total	6.71	7.11	7.45	7.75	8.08

10. **Content:** It is recommended that funding of £3 million is ring-fenced each year as a budget for the JISC's content activity through the Content Procurement Company (JISC Collections). This budget includes provision to meet the financial commitments of existing content agreements, the delivery of this content where applicable and a budget for new content agreements. This expenditure is offset by subscription income from existing content agreements. The figures associated with content licensing and subscription income are based on current content agreements only, due to the difficulty in predicting subscription take-up by the community for potential future agreements.

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Subscription services (EDINA and MIMAS)	1.15	1.05	1.10	1.15	1.21
Content licensing	2.60	2.58	2.58	2.60	2.59
2. Existing commitments	(1.83)	(1.21)	(1.08)	(0.42)	(0.50)
3. New content	(0.77)	(1.37)	(1.50)	(2.18)	(2.09)
Subscription income	-0.75	-0.63	-0.68	-0.75	-0.80
Total	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00

11. **Communications and Outreach:** *The communications and outreach activity for JISC Content Services activities will be managed by JISC Collections with support from the JISC Outreach Team. A programme of activity will be developed in the coming months which will demonstrate how this funding will be utilised. The funding recommended for communications and outreach in 2007-08 AY is £0.10.*

Integrated Information Environment

12. The JISC is responsible for developing an Integrated Information Environment to support online resources of all types and wherever possible to develop common solutions across research, learning and teaching and digital libraries.

¹¹ Satellite Images (Landmap) <http://www.landmap.ac.uk/>

¹² JISC Content Procurement Company (JISC Collections) <http://www.jisc-collections.ac.uk/>

¹³ Arts and Humanities Data Service (AHDS) <http://www.ahds.ac.uk>

¹⁴ Economic and Social Data Service <http://www.esds.ac.uk/>

¹⁵ Athens Access Management Service <http://www.athens.ac.uk>

¹⁶ British Universities Film and Video Council (BUFVC) <http://www.bufvc.ac.uk>

¹⁷ Technical Advisory Service for Images (TASI) <http://www.tasi.ac.uk>

13. The JISC Integrated Information Environment work programme is in support of a number of JISC's strategic aims, particularly innovative and sustainable ICT infrastructure, services and practice that support institutions in meeting their mission.

14. In planning these activities the JISC will be informed by the e-Science Core Programme, the Research Information Network, the HE Academy, BECTa, and will work with other stakeholders to implement those recommendations approved by the funding bodies.

15. The funding recommended for the JISC Integrated Information Environment for the 2007-08 Academic Year is **£5.603m**. The total is made up as follows (£ million):

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Services in Development	1.168	1.112	0.620	0.600	0.300
Services to Support Development	0.481	0.488	0.520	0.550	0.570
Development Programmes	3.441	3.453	4.155	4.305	4.815
Evaluation & Programme Management	0.309	0.355	0.368	0.380	0.392
Communications & Outreach	0.051	0.195	0.127	0.130	0.063
Total	5.450	5.603	5.790	5.965	6.140

16. Services in Development: The UK Access Management Federation (£0.582m) will provide a single sign-on route to resources for users. Funded jointly with JISC's Content Services and Networking committees from 2008-09 AY onwards, although some development funds are necessary to support further aspects during transition. Jorum¹⁸ (£0.430m) is a free online repository service for teaching and support staff in FE and HE. Go Geo!¹⁹ (£0.06m) is a tool designed to help users locate details about geo-spatial datasets and related resources. GetRef²⁰ (£0.04m) is a fully functional cross-searching tool enabling the user to present a simple search to multiple services and receive matching results.

17. Services to Support Development Programmes: UKOLN²¹ (£0.32m) is a national focus of expertise in digital information management. It is co-funded by JISC and the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council. OSS Watch²² (£0.168m) provides UK HE and FE with neutral and authoritative guidance about free and open source software, and about related open standards.

18. Development: The e-Frameworks Programme (£0.45m) will undertake further analysis to understand the relationships between e-Learning and e-Research environments through its e-Frameworks Programme and to understand the processes supported by these different architectures and services. The JISC is collaborating with SURF in the Netherlands, and other European partners in Germany and Denmark through the Knowledge Exchange (£0.1m), designed to share experience and foster collaboration.

19. Shared middleware services such as authentication, authorisation, collection description and service description are key to achieving seamless access to distributed resources. The Middleware and Shared Infrastructure Services Programmes (£0.4m) are contributing to the JISC Strategy through the delivery of a Common Integrated Information Environment including a National Middleware Service. The UK is playing a central role in developing these standards and a stable and sustainable platform on which future environments will be built.

20. Through the Repositories and Preservation Programme (£1.493m), JISC is developing mechanisms and supporting services to allow learning and research content to be managed, stored and shared more easily. The challenge of archiving electronic documents and publications remains a complex area and a major inhibitor in the future growth of electronic resources. JISC is seeking to address this challenge through its Digital Preservation Strategy.

¹⁸ <http://www.jorum.co.uk>

¹⁹ <http://www.gogeo.ac.uk>

²⁰ <http://www.edina.ac.uk/gtref>

²¹ <http://www.ukoln.ac.uk>

²² <http://www.oss-watch.ac.uk>

21. 'Portals' integrate content from different sources and re-present it in ways which respond to the needs of different users and user communities. They are at the heart of the Integrated Information Environment and help to achieve JISC's vision of seamless access to distributed resources. The Portals and Resource Discovery programme (£0.85m) has created a series of portals in different areas (subject, format-based, community-based), and commissioned studies on the portal needs of the e-science community, full content integration in portals, ways to enable generation of metadata for portals, and the broader embedding and sustainability issues.

22. Evaluation and Programme Management: Funding is recommended to undertake formative evaluation (£0.15m) and quality assurance of key activities. This will provide continuous feedback and review to ensure activities funded met user needs and can be re-focused where necessary and to inform future direction. Funding is also recommended to support the Executive in programme management (£0.205m) activities to ensure projects are supported accordingly, synergies are developed across programmes, and appropriate dissemination is undertaken in the JISC community and lessons shared.

23. Communications and Outreach: In addition to the usual communications and outreach activities to support JIIE work (£0.055m), funding (£0.14m) is also recommended for a post to focus on outreach activities for the UK Access Management Federation. An Outreach Working Party, with representatives from UKERNA, EduserV, JISC and BECTA has also been formed to ensure that there is consistency in messages sent out to the community regarding the Federation.

Learning and Teaching

24. The role of the JISC Learning & Teaching committee is to advise on the use of information and communications technology (ICT) to enhance learning and teaching and to support the requirements of the learning and teaching community by identifying relevant areas of work appropriate to the JISC.

25. The learning and teaching committee's work programme is in support of a number of JISC's strategic aims, particularly:

- innovative and sustainable ICT infrastructure, services and practice that support institutions in meeting their mission;
- promoting the development, uptake and effective use of ICT to support learning and teaching;
- enhancing its activities to support the management of institutions.

26. In planning these activities the JISC will be informed by the e-Science Core Programme, the Research Information Network and will work with the HE Academy, BECTA and other stakeholders to implement those recommendations approved by the funding bodies.

27. The funding recommended for the JISC Learning and Teaching committee for the 2007-08 Academic Year is **£2.92m**. The total is made up as follows (£ million):

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Services	0.40	0.34	0.32	0.33	0.34
Services to Support Development	0.65	0.66	0.67	0.69	0.71
Development Programmes	1.58	1.43	1.54	1.65	1.71
Evaluation & Programme Management	0.10	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14
Communications & Outreach	0.12	0.35	0.35	0.30	0.30
Total	2.85	2.92	3.02	3.11	3.20

28. Services: JISCInfonet²³ (£0.26m) provides expertise to support institutions in the planning and implementation of information systems. JISC Plagiarism Advisory Service²⁴ (£0.08m) began operating in September 2002. It is intended that the detection element would become a subscription service reducing the committee's contribution over four years. Beyond this it is expected JISC will continue to retain an interest in the service by making a small grant to its operational costs.

29. Services to Support Development: The Centre on Educational Technology and Interoperability Standards²⁵ (£0.66m) has provided support to both JISC's development programmes, the community and commercial vendors to ensure the interoperability of applications such as MIS systems and VLEs.

30. Development: The e-Learning development programme aims to identify how e-Learning approaches might be used to facilitate learning, advise on how these approaches might be effectively implemented and supports the DfES and HEFCE e-Learning strategies and those of the other UK nations. The e-Learning programme continues to bring together technology developers and those involved in learning and teaching to look at the practical questions involved in making e-learning effective from the point of view of learners, teachers, institutions and funders so that the technologies are developed and exploited in the best possible way. The committee is aware that technology should encourage the creation of new paradigms not duplicate current models of learning and teaching practice.

31. The e-learning work is being taken forward thematically. The four cross cutting themes are learning and teaching practice, technology and standards, e-administration and policy & strategy. These will underpin the specialist activities of e-assessment, e-portfolio, educational content and technology supported learning environments. The drivers for the e-learning programme continue to be lifelong learning, widening participation, work based and personalised learning.

32. Evaluation and Programme Management: Funding is recommended to ensure the e-learning programme meets user needs, indicates where, if necessary, work should be refocused and identifies gaps/future areas of work.

33. Communications and Marketing: It is important that outputs and lessons are shared with members of the JISC community. JLT will continue to use a variety of different mechanisms to reach different target audiences.

Networking

34. The JISC is charged with providing a high quality network infrastructure within the post-16 and higher education and Research Councils' community. This network is known as JANET (Joint Academic NETwork). The JISC delivers the JANET service through the networking sub-committee that is charged with ensuring the continued provision of a high quality network infrastructure and taking forward the recommendations in the JISC Strategy.

35. These recommendations cover the remainder of JISC's networking activities, outside the SLA with UKERNA. The funding recommended for networking service and development for the 2007-08 Academic Year is **£0.5m**

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Network Development	0.50	0.50	0.523	0.54	0.56
Total	0.50	0.50	0.523	0.54	0.56

36. The JCN Development Group has decided that the main areas for development are:

²³ <http://www.jiscinfonet.ac.uk>

²⁴ <http://www.jiscpas.ac.uk>

²⁵ <http://www.cetis.ac.uk>

- Funding to promote further collaboration between HE and NHS (for a post at UKERNA)
- Location Independent Networking
- Voice over IP
- Internal Collaboration work
- High definition video content

37. Although the above areas have been identified, allocation of funds will not be considered until funding has been confirmed.

Organisational Support

38. The role of JISC's Organisational Support committee is to support the requirements of managers and administrators in institutions, particularly with respect to the human and organisational issues associated with effectively utilising and exploiting ICT. The aim is to make organisations more effective, to raise quality and to motivate practitioners.

39. The organisational support work is in support of a number of JISC's strategic aims, particularly:

- to deliver innovative and sustainable ICT infrastructure, services and practice that support institutions in meeting their missions;
- to enhance JISC activities to support the management of institutions;
- to develop and implement a programme to support institutions' engagement with the wider community.

40. The funding recommended for organisational support activities in the 2007-08 Academic Year is **£9.25 million**. The total is made up as follows (£ million):

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-2010	2010-2011
Services	5.59	6.73	7.10	7.45	7.82
Development Programmes	0.35	0.36	0.37	0.38	0.39
Evaluation & Programme Management	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Communications & Outreach	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
RSC ACL Support	0.4126	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	6.39	7.1327	7.51	7.87	8.25

41. Services: The provision of the UK network of Regional Support Centres²⁸ supports JISC's strategic aim to deliver innovative services which support institutions in the achievement of their organisational aims. Budgets for each RSC in 2007-08 have been agreed in conjunction with the funding bodies (total £5.13 million). The budget allocated for each RSC has been increased by 5% and a further £0.20 million has been added to the budget to cover the costs of increases in salaries for RSC staff.

42. JISC infoNet²⁹ was established in 2003 to provide expertise and support to institutions in the planning and implementation of information systems. It is jointly funded by the Organisational Support committee and JISC's Learning and Teaching committee (£0.42 million from JOS). The JISC Legal Information Service³⁰ (£0.29m) offers legal information to

²⁶ In 2006-07 AY the RSC ACL activity was not funded as part of the JOS core grant. It has been included here for ease of reference.

²⁷ From 2007-08 AY the RSC ALC activity will be included in the RSC core grant. It has therefore been added to the overall JOS funding recommendation.

²⁸ <http://www.jisc.ac.uk/rsc>

²⁹ <http://www.jiscinfonet.ac.uk>

³⁰ <http://www.jisclegal.ac.uk>

further and higher education relating to the use of ICT. This includes information about data protection, freedom of information, intellectual property and e-security. The service will need to be reviewed in 2007.

43. JISC continues to support Netskills³¹ (£0.11m), which provides training services on the effective use of ICT and the internet in education and training. JISC has a commitment to fund Netskills up to July 2007 and the service is currently being reviewed to determine future support. TechDis³² aims to support and promote accessibility and inclusion in the education community through technology. This service is also being reviewed at the time of writing. The budget for the services in 2007-08 AY has been increased by a further £0.15 million for service enhancement activities.

44. Development: Members will be undertaking a fundamental review of JOS' work in the early part of 2006 in order to re-affirm that the committee is focussing on the right areas to meet the demands of the JISC strategy. The outcomes of this review will form a new and re-focused programme of development work from 2007 onwards.

45. Evaluation and Programme Management: Funding is recommended to ensure the programme meets user needs, indicates where, if necessary, work should be refocused and identifies gaps/future areas of work.

46. Communications and Marketing: It is important that outputs and lessons are shared with members of the JISC community. JOS will continue to use a variety of different mechanisms to reach different target audiences.

47. Third Stream Funding: JISC was asked by the funding councils to establish whether it could support their 'third stream' mission to enhance the contribution of HE to the economy and society. In 2006 JISC commissioned a scoping study and a think tank in order to investigate the extent to which JISC's current developments and services support higher education institutions' third stream activities and to identify new areas of work or services that would be appropriate for JISC to develop. Funding for 2006-07 AY of £0.5 million was provided from the funding councils to tailor advisory services and JISC material to the third stream audience. The funds will also cover two initial studies into areas identified by this community as opportunities for ICT to improve their processes of working with business and community.

48. A total of £2.10 million is recommended for third stream activity in 2007-08 AY. Whilst the results from the user needs study will provide the details of how these funds will be spent an initial outline plan has been developed based on the outcomes of the scoping study and think tank. Some of the funding will be used to continue the activities begun in 2006-07. It is recommended that increased funding is also required for new development activities – the content of which will be determined by the user needs analysis.

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-2010	2010-2011
13 RSC Staff	1.04	1.07	1.10	1.14
3 Advisory Services Staff	0.24	0.25	0.25	0.26
Development Programme	0.63	0.65	0.67	0.69
Communications and Marketing	0.10	0.10	0.11	0.11
JISC Third Stream Expert ³³	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.10
Total	2.10	2.16	2.23	2.30

³¹ <http://www.netskills.ac.uk>

³² <http://www.techdis.ac.uk>

³³ This post will be within the JISC Executive and once funding recommendations are agreed, this budget will be incorporated into the Central Services budget line.

Support of Research

49. The role of JISC Support of Research is to ensure that the JISC provides appropriate infrastructure and services to support the needs of researchers, particularly in the context of the UK Research Grid. In addition to the necessary networking infrastructure, this includes ensuring that key issues such as authentication and data storage/retrieval are addressed.

50. The JISC Support of Research work programme is in support of a number of JISC's strategic aims, particularly:

- innovative and sustainable ICT infrastructure, services and practice that support institutions in meeting their mission;
- promoting the development, uptake and effective use of ICT to support learning and teaching;
- supporting the uptake and effective use of e-research.

51. In planning these activities JISC will be informed by the research councils, e-Science Core Programme, the Research Information Network, and will work with other stakeholders to implement those recommendations approved by the funding bodies.

52. The funding recommended for support of research in the 2007-08 Academic Year is **£2.92 million**. The total is made up as follows (£ million):

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Services	1.24	1.74	1.79	1.81	1.82
Development projects	1.14	0.71	0.71	0.78	0.85
Programme Management & Evaluation	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Communications & Outreach	0.22	0.22	0.25	0.25	0.26
Total	2.85	2.92	3.00	3.09	3.18

53. **Services:** The Digital Curation Centre³⁴ (£0.75m) provides a national focus for research into curation issues and expertise in the processes of digital archiving, preservation and management. It is funded jointly with the e-Science Core Programme. The National Grid Service³⁵ (£0.25m), jointly funded with CCLRC and EPSRC, helps new Grid users as they learn how to collaborate through experimentation. It also provides a safe area where academic institutions can test their authentication systems.

54. The UK Centre for Text Mining³⁶ (£0.3m), funded jointly with BBSRC and EPSRC, aims to develop and apply text mining tools to help researchers deal with the growing size of literature and the amount of data held in electronic text format. The National Visualisation Network³⁷ (£0.21m) aims to link a number of existing visualisation centres across the UK to support users and encourage best practice.

55. The Access Grid Support Centre³⁸ (£0.23m) aims to improve the user experience of Access Grid through enhanced quality and robust, resilient services. The AGSC will become part of the JANET SLA during 2007/08 AY and funding will be transferred to the Networking Committee.

56. **Development:** Funding is recommended to fund projects to investigate the specific security requirements of the Grid/e-Science, and to ensure that JISC-funded datasets can be accessed securely by Grid users. Funding is also recommended for projects to explore human factors issues identified in the audit of e-science/JISC projects commissioned by the committee, and on high-end visualisation using the Grid. Continued funding is recommended to support the software tools that underpin videoconferencing via Access Grid, and for the

³⁴ <http://www.dcc.ac.uk>

³⁵ <http://www.grid-support.ac.uk>

³⁶ <http://www.nactem.ac.uk>

³⁷ <http://viznet.ac.uk>

³⁸ <http://www.agsc.ja.net>

Collaborative Open Ontology Development Environment (CO-ODE) project which aims to produce and improve tools for ontology building.

57. Programme Management and Evaluation: The committee supports several posts jointly with other organisations, including a post at the National e-Science Centre (NeSC) which provides co-ordination between the JISC and e-Science communities; posts at the NeSC to support UK involvement in the Enabling Grids for E-Science (EGEE) work led by CERN, and two posts at the Arts and Humanities Data Service to promote e-science developments in the arts and humanities

58. Communications and Outreach: The committee sees as a major part of its role engagement with the UK research community, both in order to ensure that it is aware of the community's requirements and to help keep the community up to date with relevant JISC activities. The committee recommends continued funding during 2007-08 AY to support this work; including a communications officer post jointly funded with EPSRC to publicise the work of the JISC to the research community.