

WHELF SHARED LMS:
THE BENEFITS OF COLLABORATION



Gareth Owen, Programme Manager

Wales Higher Education Libraries Forum

Programme to procure and implement a single LMS across key institutions in Wales

Benefits at the heart of the programme

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WHELF Shared LMS Background

9 Universities

1 National Library

30 NHS Wales Libraries

In 2014

- operating 6 LMSs
- variety of discovery layers

Since 2016

- operating 1 LMS
- and 1 Discovery Layer

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Benefits Focussed Programme

Pre-procurement

- Jisc funded feasibility study (2013)
- Anticipated benefits

Post procurement

- Jisc funded study (2017)
- Realised benefits

Rationale

- Framework for monitoring and reporting
- Independent validation

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Financial Benefits

Lower supplier costs

- £76,000 in 2015/16
- £150,000 in 2016/17

Ongoing lower core subscription costs

Lower procurement costs

- £55,000

Lower costs for bespoke developments

- Translation (£19,700 per institution)

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Non-financial Benefits

Pooling expertise

- Comprehensive and robust requirements
- Sharing knowledge and experience

High specification system across WHELP

- Smaller institutions able to afford a higher quality system

Bilingual front and back end interface

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Operational Benefits

Cloud-based Next Generation System

- Software as Service with reduced burden on systems teams
- Better integration with other IT systems

Joined-up Working

- Functional groups developing shared work projects
 - Sharing training, workflows, trouble shooting
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- **Exercise buying muscle**
 - Opportunity for more consortial deals

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The Future and Benefits

Benefits Focus invigorates the programme

Benefits Study validates the programme

Deeper and wider collaboration

- Coordinated enhancements process
- Analytics to benchmark
- Consistent cataloguing/shared catalogue
- Inter-lending to maximise resources

Continued benefits monitoring

- Monitor new opportunities
- Report on resources and service delivery