

## **Notes from Bird of a Feather Session – Financing IT (11.30 session; Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> of November)**

### **Background**

- Move from funding by the state to funding by the student
- Funding based on UCAS tariff points
- Competitive Market – with “for profit” provides emerging
- 40% cut in funding
- 80% cut to the teaching budget for the average University
- Traditional talk and chalk not being funded.

### **Options to Address this**

Two areas:

- Get best value for each £ spent
- Increase Revenue

### **Ideas**

- Provide a basic package and charge for anything else
- Providing employers with “access” to graduates
- Charging for IT services as delivered – e.g. the charge per desk top PC
- (can drive positive behaviour but can be overly bureaucratic)
- Selling services e.g. data centres commercially (general feeling was that selling a commercial service would be expensive)
- Importance of solid business cases
- Need to drive behavioural changes
- Need to make more need of assets – buildings, students
- Is the staff bill larger or smaller than the technology bill?
  - Can staff be outsourced/off shored/shared “specialists”?
  - Can licensing costs be driven down?
- Must establish a clear cost of services
- Advertising revenue?