

Costing Plan to Manage the St Andrews Bioinformatics Unit

The current running costs of the facility are represented by a bioinformatician's time (currently Dr Miguel Pinheiro funded through ISSF for 3 years) and hardware depreciation. To keep the facility sustainable beyond the 3 years we will implement an access charge towards the hardware and costing towards the bioinformatician salary. Access charges will include storage but we will review the system as we will approach full storage capacity. We may also discuss on individual bases access charges for disproportionally large projects.

Costing system for internal users (affiliated to St Andrews)

- Immediate use, implemented as soon as the new server becomes operational
 - o Hardware. We will apply an access fee system. Exploratory, light or occasional use, with only minor requirement for resources (storage, RAM and/or CPU time), will be covered by a fee of £500/year/group. For research project with a bioinformatics, 'omics or next-generation sequencing component we will apply an access fee of £1.500/year/group for the duration of the project. PIs that have already contributed to the hardware funds will be exempt proportionally to the initial contribution.
 - o Bioinformatic support. We will not charge groups for technical support for the first 3 years, as this is covered by ISSF. However we will keep track of projects to estimate time spent helping each group.
- Prospective use (costing for grants)
 - o We ask HoS and DoR to implement a strategy including Bioinformatics service in the check-list for grant signatures.
 - o We will require PIs planning to use the Bioinformatics Unit to cost it in the following way:
 - Hardware. Access charge of £1.500/year/project for the duration of the project.
 - Bioinformatic support. We will apply a three-tier system. When the bioinformatician will be directly involved in the data analysis the costing should match 20% of the post-holder time for the duration of the project (estimating to work on up to 5 projects at a time). When the bioinformatician is expected to provide support to other researchers, costing should match 10% of the post-holder time. For bioinformatics research projects, that will require only minimal assistance (software installation/upgrade, user account management), the costing should match 5% of the post-holder time.
- Each group using the facility will be asked to sign a collaboration agreement