



**TITLE**

# Policy on Control of Servers Purchased Using Research Grants

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APPROVAL**

Name, Role

Date

Signature

Author(s)

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Chair of IT

Committee

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**NEXT REVIEW DATE**

**RELATED POLICIES**

**DOCUMENT  
HISTORY**

Valid from

Changes

24/02/2025

New policy

## Background

The Department has a number of servers purchased using research grants, for which the relevant grant has now expired. This puts pressure on the Shared Data Centre, because the amount of rack space we have is limited and the ongoing power and cooling costs can be very high, particularly for older machines. This policy is designed to alleviate the problems and to facilitate the sharing of resources in the Department.

## Policy

Wherever possible, new servers should join the Departmental Small Research Facility (SRF). The individual or group whose funding was used to purchase the server will retain priority access. If such a transfer is not an option, perhaps because the funder does not allow it, then the server will join the slurm “swan” cluster and have controlled access solely by members of the group that purchased it.

If the original individual or group wishes to retain priority access after the end of their funding, then they would be expected to pay for the ongoing space and power costs from other grants or their personal research allowance. Servers over 5 years old, and for which any relevant funding has expired, should become eligible for retirement; this will be done in such a way that there is always a reasonable pool of servers available to individuals without separate funding for compute, including students.