

# Migration of research group websites from Plone CMS - Project 388

Web page for the project to migrate (research) web sites off the Plone based wcms.inf.ed.ac.uk service.

Project 388 - <https://computing.projects.inf.ed.ac.uk/#388>

Jump to [the end](#) for the most recent updates.

From starting talk minutes of 17/1/2018

We will probably need to set up a VM to host as we don't want all of these on edweb (web.inf) necessarily. Institutes can then do their own migration. Group specific modules can be distinct even when hosting multiple instances on one server. Alternatively modules could wait on them getting added to the central edweb for benefit of whole community. We need to audit remaining active content. Switch to Neil as lead developer.

31/1/2023 Updated status

Site	Comment	Contact	Status
migration.inf.ed.ac.uk	very old	Facilities	deleted
www.not-a-service.inf.ed.ac.uk	very old	COs	deleted
www.transfics.eu	no longer resolves	Stuart A	deleted
pb2013.inf.ed.ac.uk	old workshop	Libkin, Wenfei	static version
www.classic-project.org	looks old	O Lemon	static version
www.emime.org		Simon K	static version
wcms.inf.ed.ac.uk	host site	Services Unit	static version
www.mngu0.org		Korin	static
wcms.lfcs.inf.ed.ac.uk	LFCS	Kousha, Stuart, David	migrated to web.inf
www.anc.ed.ac.uk	ANC	Douglas, Nigel	migrated to web.inf
www.cisa.inf.ed.ac.uk	redirects to web.inf	Jacques	migrated to web.inf
www.hcrc.ed.ac.uk		S Goldwater	redirect to ilcc
www.ilcc.inf.ed.ac.uk	redirects to web.inf	S Goldwater, S King	redirect
www.ultrax-speech.org	active	S Renals, Korin	migrated

## Non-domain sites

Site	Comment	Contact	Status
wcms.inf.ed.ac.uk/dice	very old	COs	deleted
wcms.inf.ed.ac.uk/idar09	old workshop	S Viglas	deleted
wcms.inf.ed.ac.uk/pepa	test/trial	Gilmore	deleted
wcms.inf.ed.ac.uk/sspnet	old	Jon K	deleted
wcms.inf.ed.ac.uk/hcrc-reunion	old	Henry, Johanna	static version
wcms.inf.ed.ac.uk/jast	old	Jean C, Robin H	static version
wcms.inf.ed.ac.uk/icsa	redirects to web.inf	Mahesh	migrated
wcms.inf.ed.ac.uk/ipab	redirects to web.inf	B Webb	migrated

The list of all zope stubs: anc classic-project dice emime hcrc hcrc-reunion icsa idar09 iab ilcc ipab jast lfcs migration mngu0 notaservice pb2013 pepa sandbox sspnet transfics ultrax. ect to web.inf

Next steps:

- Contact site owners and see if any sites can just be deleted - done
- For those that are static, but there is still a need/desire to keep online, grab a static copy just by spidering the public content - use httrack and insider info
- For the others, discuss a suitable alternative technology: Central wiki, WP, [EdWeb?](#)
- Put these steps in project.

## Dev update 5/2/2020

A recap:

Project to kill off the old Plone/Zope based sites hosted on wcms.inf.ed.ac.uk.

Three options:

- delete
- make a static HTML version
- migrate to some other technology

There are/were a total of 22 sites hosted on wcms.inf.

- 7 definite delete - 7 deleted
- 7 definite make static - 7 static versions now done eg [www.emime.org](http://www.emime.org) [wcms.inf.ed.ac.uk/jast](http://wcms.inf.ed.ac.uk/jast)
- 4 definite migrate - ANC and LFCS [web.inf.ed.ac.uk](http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk), (ANC completed, LFCS needs redirects) other 2 (ultrax-speech - done, mngu0 - DNS issues)
- 4 others - cisa, icsa, ipab all redirecting to web.inf, but deep links still possible. sspnet dithering between delete/static, will make it static while they make their mind up.

Used httrack, plus a little insider Plone knowledge, to create the static versions. It does a pretty good job. eg:

Static- <http://www.classic-project.org/> Plone - <http://wcms.inf.ed.ac.uk/classic>

We can also do some Plone fiddling before the static site is captured, to make it more obvious this is an old site. eg

<http://pbf2013.inf.ed.ac.uk/>

The static versions of the sites are being served out of AFS at [afs/inf.ed.ac.uk/group/web/static-plone/](http://afs.inf.ed.ac.uk/group/web/static-plone/)

Work still to do:

- Migrations:
  - mngu0.org should have had their new site in Jan 2020, but domain issues at present.
- The 4 CISA, ILCC, ICSA, IPAB which all now have web.inf versions, so in theory they are done. But it is possible some deeplinks are not being redirected, as they have no "catch all" on those sites. These need to be checked.
- write up, don't see that a DPIA will apply.

## 18/5/2020

A little progress. Still to do:

- LFCS redirect to web.inf. Waiting for OK from Deputy [Dol](#)
- CISA catch-all redirect once deep links checked
- ICSA catch-all redirect once deep links checked
- IPAB catch-all redirect once deep links checked
- SSPNET waiting for Jon K to agree to deletion
- mngu0 owners migrating to [WordPress](#) site

## 23/3/2020 dev meeting update

As usual, not much progress, but there's not too much left to do (for me). Things that have happened since last report:

- icsa - Catch all put in place. Old site archived and deleted.
- ipab - List of deep links sent to infcomms, awaiting response. Putting in a catch all for this looks fairly uncontentious to me.
- lfcs - Again, nudged infcomms.
- I have archived and removed sspnet.
- I chased mngu0 again, and they have accepted my offer to creating a static HTML version while they prepare a new site. This shouldn't be too hard once I figure out how to get httrack to use the authentication cookie so it can walk not just the public content.

## 4/5/2021

The few remaining things:

LFCS: At the beginning of April Rik said there was one remaining group on the old LFCS site, once they had migrated their content then the old pages could go. I need to chase their progress.

IPAB: Again just waiting for the OK from Ram that a "catch-all" redirect can be put in place.

MNGU0: I have managed to take an authenticated static copy of the site. One thing it doesn't capture is the list of users of the site, which Korin would like to preserve. I've found some snippets of old code that should be able to dump that as a CSV file. Failing that it might just be a cut and paste of a few web pages to capture the data.

## 1/6/2021

Update on the 3 remaining sites:

LFCS: There's one remaining section that is due to be relocated (by their hand). That's supposed to be done by the first week of June. Once that's done, Rick is happy for all the old sites/URLs to redirect to the new site. I'll then be able to remove the old content. If they miss the deadline, then I'll just generate a static version of that section of the old plone site.

IPAB: The "catch-all" redirect is now in place. I will remove the old plone site once I've got a last copy of the data, but effectively IPAB is now done.

MNGU0: Following on the comments from last time about a DPIA, I've passed that on to Korin. I did have a quick look through the records management DPIA site, but didn't see something that would be equivalent, though it isn't the simplest list to check. I have managed to extract the data he wanted and have a test static version of the site, but haven't replaced the plone content with it yet.

### 3/8/2021

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Last time I reported to the dev meeting, there were 3 sites still using Plone (LFCS, IPAB and mngu0.org). There's now no active content on those 3 sites.

mngu0.org has been replaced by a static HTML version.

IPAB now redirects everything to new locations, and has been removed.

LFCS, the last remaining section to be migrated has been moved, and that now means LFCS can be replaced with redirects to the new location. I've been waiting for the final OK from Rik Sarkar, and he got back to me yesterday confirming that, provided we have a copy of the old site we could refer to if necessary, he's happy for it to now go.

I've taken a copy of the old public facing site, and will take a copy of the members only site too.

Then it's "just" tidying up and finishing off, and the final report.

I intend to keep cigarvm running, but just not with any Plone. It will only host the migrated static HTML versions of the requested sites.

### 28/9/2021

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All the sites have now been replaced or deleted, and the web server now just redirects to the new locations, or hosts a static HTML version of some sites.

Plone is no longer running on cigarvm.

I still need to rationalise and simplify the web config and do the final report.

### 9/11/2021

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As reported last time, plone is no longer running on cigarvm. I have started rationalising the remaining apache config for the remaining static and redirect sites. I'd expect another hour or so effort is needed to finish that off.

Then there's the final report to do, so it should all be done by the end of the month, and in time for this project's next appearance at the dev meeting.

### 3/2/2023

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Well that didn't quite happen. However there is now a final report, and a web accessibility statement for wcms.inf.ed.ac.uk, hopefully this will be enough to get the project finished.

### End Anchor

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-- [NeilBrown](#) - 29 Jan 2018

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Topic revision: r17 - 06 Feb 2023 - 12:17:28 - [NeilBrown](#)

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