



An introduction

What is HERBi?

Higher Education Realisation of Benefits interactive (HERBi) tool

Helping you to understand the costs and
benefits of sharing services in the higher
education sector

- Free web-based interactive tool
- High level analysis for senior managers
- Costs and benefits
- Quantitative and qualitative
- Clear, robust and easy to use



 [Download the HERBi User Guide](#)

The Higher Education Realisation of Benefits interactive (HERBi) tool allows users to explore the nature and scale of the potential quantitative and qualitative costs and benefits associated with sharing services within the higher education sector.

[About HERBi](#) [Use the HERBi tool](#) [Download the HERBi User Guide](#)

This tool has been developed by Falmouth Exeter Plus, which is the shared services delivery partner of Falmouth University and the University of Exeter, with support from the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

 [Get started](#)



And it looks like this...

It's quite a novel project

Nobody's really tried anything like this before

A yellow speech bubble with a white border and a tail pointing downwards and to the left. It contains the text "You can find us here".

You can find us here

www.herbi.ac.uk

Why?

There's a big focus on shared services

There are lots of large numbers flying around

But there's rather little in the way of actual data

HERBi draws on the experience of Falmouth
Exeter Plus and of the wider sector...

... to cut through the hype
and come up with some hard numbers

What can HERBi do for me?

HERBi can help you to

- explore your options
- understand the potential costs and benefits*
- model different scenarios
- make better decisions

* with actual numbers!

But there are some caveats

- It's a model - a simplified version of reality
- It uses a range of estimates and assumptions
- It should be viewed as indicative only
- It's no substitute for proper project appraisal

What does HERBi do?

HERBi models up to five institutions in three different shared services scenarios

Scenario 1: The user's institution seeks to share its own services with other institutions

Scenario 2: The user's institution wishes to share another institution's services

Scenario 3: The user's institution intends to work with other institutions to set up a new, separate shared services organisation

- Admissions, registry and student administration
- Residences, retail and campus services
- Library services
- Student support services
- Financial services
- Human resources
- ICT services
- Estates and facilities
- Conferences and events

How has the tool been developed?

- Developed by Falmouth Exeter Plus
- Overseen by a Steering Group
- Funded by HEFCE
- Support from across the sector
- Tested on a selection of potential users

How does HERBi work?

Service delivery savings

Efficiency savings

One-off savings

Institution 1

Economies of scale

Governance costs

Institution 2

Institution 3

Institution 4

Institution 5

Staff cost savings

Start-up costs

Financing cost savings

Additional VAT costs

Qualitative costs and benefits

HERBi factors in a whole range of different costs and savings

Shared service

Collect data

Process data

Present results

Number of institutions

Services to be shared

Cost sharing group?

Cost data for services

Cost driver data

HERBi

Current costs

Shared costs

Breakdown of savings

NPV of net savings

Qualitative factors

And once you've input
some basic financial and
activity data, HERBi does
the rest for you

HERBi

Higher Education Realisation of Benefits interactive (HERBi) tool User Guide

There's a detailed user
guide...

to explore the nature and scale of the potential quantitative and its associated with sharing services within the higher education sector.

Falmouth Exeter Plus, which is the shared services delivery partner of University of Exeter, with support from the Higher Education Funding

a broad range of services on the Falmouth Campus and on the shared range from library and academic skills, information technology (accommodation and all retail services. Falmouth Exeter Plus is a company and has its own senior management team and staff.

on the experience of Falmouth Exeter Plus, as well as on research and in the higher education sector and beyond.

HERBi tool an overview of what the tool is for, how it works and how it is fairly self-explanatory from the user's perspective, this guide provides information on the data, parameters and calculations

over data about their own institution, the service(s) that they wish to share with which they would like to share them. If users do not select from a number of generic institutions within the

simplified version of reality. Consequently, it is based on

to share behave broadly in line with the

covered under the shared arrangement will be provided currently by the user's institution; and across all partners in the shared services

outlined within the tool should be regarded as a preliminary investigation. Users are advised to take project appraisal and due diligence before

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os, which are designed to cover the

as follows:

er's institution seeks to share its own services with other institutions;
er's institution wishes to share another institution's services; and
er's institution intends to work with other institutions to set up a new, shared services organisation.

services that institutions are most likely to want to share with other institutions; the tool also breaks these services down into a range of individual

tool are as follows:

ent administration;
mpus services;

ct of each individual service and activity have been identified; users do not seek, however, to define each service or activity in detail. Using the tool, users should define services and activities

out the nature of the proposed shared services and how they fit into the business places within the tool to define key benefits of the arrangement to the participating

s arrangement;

aining group¹.

<http://www.he.ac.uk/funding/efficient/ssi/>.

...and plenty of additional support within the tool itself

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL www.herbi.ac.uk/Configuration.aspx. The page features the HERBi logo and a navigation bar with a 'Download HERBi User Guide' button. The main content area is titled 'Scenario Configuration' and includes a 'Scenario' section with a dropdown menu currently set to 'My institution shares its existing service(s) with others'. Below this is a paragraph explaining the scenarios: 'In all scenarios modelled using this tool, Institution 1 is your own institution and Institutions 2, 3 participating in the shared services arrangement. In the scenario where your institution shares Institution 1 is your institution and Institution 2 is the institution whose services you wish to share'. The 'Institutions' section has a dropdown menu set to 'Select the Number of Institutions'. A yellow callout bubble points to a help icon (question mark) in the top right corner. A red dotted circle highlights a tooltip that reads: 'The tool is based around three specific shared services scenarios, which are designed to cover the majority of arrangements likely to be considered by users. These scenarios are as follows: Scenario 1: The user's institution seeks to share its own services with other institutions; Scenario 2: The user's institution wishes to share another institution's services; and Scenario 3: The user's institution intends to work with other institutions to set up a new, separate shared services organisation.'

So what are you waiting for...?

www.herbi.ac.uk