Reflection - Development Individual Project: Presentation

The second part of this module involved creating a presentation to a key stakeholder that informs that of changes to a deliverable, and some of the decisions that would be taken. As someone who doesn't have much involvement in this kind of work in my professional career, it was a good way for me to explore this kind of work as it's possible that I might have to make these kinds of decisions as I progress through my career. I found the material and ask to be engaging, and felt comfortable with the idea of needing to complete a presentation.

One aspect of the assignment that I did struggle with related to the need to choose parts for a machine to be delivered. I have little experience of computer hardware and as such, I had to spend a considerable amount of time researching exactly what components would be needed to meet the needs of the customer. I do, however, feel more comfortable with this aspect of project management now as without this exposure I wouldn't understand this aspect of computing still. I also found it a little difficult to decide on a final proposal, as I often tend to see then benefits and weaknesses of multiple approaches and struggle to contrast these. I ended up deciding on one, which was to recommend a new machine, and then aimed to fully explore all aspects of this. These kinds of learning experiences are things I aim to carry with me as I go through my career, as we are not effective professionals if we cannot provide the best experience to our customers. This is what I have learned is a key part of project management, and has equipped me to further explore this in future.

In terms of aspects of the project which I feel I performed well at, I have always enjoyed being able to present my ideas to others in a verbal format. I feel like I am a good orator and can use a number of different tools such as changes in tone, emphasis of words and emotive speaking to engage listeners. When I work professionally, these are things I use to draw the people I work with in and get them to fully engage with our development processes. One thing I would have improved would be trying to not prepare my script too much, and allow for more relaxed speaking at times. Upon reflection, I believe this may have served both myself and the message better.

Overall, this was a part of the module that I thoroughly enjoyed and out of all of my studies, this has been one of parts in which I felt most comfortable. I believe it has served me well for future careers within computing, and has helped me develop assertiveness, decisiveness and resilience.