Project Initiation Document

# Business Case

## Background

Yeovil College provides a Computing course, and on open days will often host a demonstration of the technologies used as part of the course. Previously there have been Human Computer Interaction (HCI) projects created by 3rd year students on display. In addition to the software demonstrations there were hardware demos, including the use of drones and non-conventional input peripherals such as eye and motion tracking.

Recently level 3 enrolment has been down when compared to previous years. It is hoped that having a more engaging open day demonstration suite will help pick up enrolment numbers. A key focus of the Computing course is the development and integration of new technology into modern society, however the existing demonstrations could be seen to lack interactivity. Due to the nature of the course it can be hard to visually show software without having a practical exhibition to showcase capability.

## Purpose

The purpose of this business case is to recommend an approach which will help the Yeovil College Computing course, and the college in general to engage pupils and subsequently to drive an increase in enrolment, with the potential for future use by other students or members of faculty.

## Required Benefits

In summary the business benefit of the chosen approach will be to increase the engagement of potential students, and to provide a framework that future students and members of faculty can use as an educational aid.

## Proposed Solutions

As the customer has specified that a web application is desired, specifically one using a C# MVC implementation, this option will be considered favourably. In addition to this however, other options will also be explored in the case that they would better provide the business benefits.

### Options

Option 1 - Do Nothing

Option 2 – Standalone Java Application

Option 3 – Standalone C# Application

Option 4 – Java based web application

Option 5 – C# based web application

### Description of Options

#### Option 1 – Do Nothing

With option 1, the college would continue to operate as before, and student enrolment would be unaffected by our actions.

#### Option 2 – Standalone Java Application

It is possible to create a professional and feature-rich User Interface within Java. Although there are no official libraries designed for using the API’s with Java, it is still possible to use them using custom network interactions.

Java is also the language which the team members are most familiar with, this would expedite the development process.

Further to this, an early prototype has already been created to demonstrate and test the use of the API’s. This was created in Java, although if Java is the chosen implementation the prototype will be discarded in favour of a more comprehensive and cohesive design.

#### Option 3 – Standalone C# Application

As there are existing libraries developed for use with C#, it may be easier to implement the API’s with this language. On the other hand, none of the team are familiar with C#, so it would involve learning the language during implementation.

#### Option 4 – Java based web application

Whilst maintaining the benefits of the standalone Java application, a web based application would enable remote access without having to install anything on the college computers. This is of benefit as installation of applications requires permission from the system administrators. On the other hand this will require a server installation, as well as dedicated hardware.

#### Option 5 – C# web based application

The customer has expressed a desire for the project to be completed as a C# web based project using ASP.NET MVC as they already have a server capable of running a project of this type. This type of project had the same advantages as option 3. While the team has little experience with ASP.NET MVC they have previously used the same principle of design for other projects.

# Project Product Description

# Feasibility and Chosen Approach

# Risk

# Quality Management and Communication

# Project Plan

# Quality Register

# Daily Log

# Risk Register

# Issues Register

# Stage Plan