# REST WEB SERVICES

Originally, applications were developed according to the monolithic architecture – where an application is considered as a whole. The client sends a request to the controller where it is sent to the model, before being carried back to the view where a http response is sent back to the client.

However, this has evolved to microservices architecture where an application is broken down into smaller projects on separate servers making development easier.

In these servers the service layer is exposed with the help of web services. The main application still contains a controller and view where the other serves contain a REST Controller. An action is processed by the client sending a http request to the main app controller. Depending on the nature of this request it is carried through the appropriate route before the view sends back a http response with the requested information.

A web service allows for programs to talk to each other, even if the programming language or platform is different. There have been many different protocols such as SOAP, an XML based protocol. Another commonly used protocol is REST which uses the HTTP protocol. It is key to be able to share and utilise information from other servers when developing according to the microservices architecture.