

My project: Housing accommodation management system

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What my project is

My project will be a housing accommodation management program that's role is to track service users living at rented properties and manage moving service users between properties to maximise profit. My program will calculate service users cost and generate invoices monthly automatically for the company to send to its clients (i.e. councils). The program will also monitor utilities cost such as energy bills and expenses such as housing repairs and maintenance to allow the user to see where they can cut costs to maximise profits.

Why I've chosen this project

The reason why I have decided to pursue this project is because I myself work in the housing accommodation industry where we house council tenants and ensure that their necessities are met whilst profits are maximised. However, we currently use many spreadsheets to allow us to monitor the rents, utilities and expenses using Microsoft's Excel. The main issue we have with using spreadsheets is that since there are multiple spreadsheets being used, there isn't a central monitoring system in place that takes information from each of the spreadsheets and combining it to give an overall view of the current state of the business. Also, a spreadsheet can only be accessed by one user at a time therefore only one user can be monitoring at a time on a specific part of the business.

What will be different about it

Currently there are no programs that can accommodate change of rates in service user's rents as well as being able to have a services user inventory that would allow the users to pick and choose what property the service user in the inventory should go to.

Technology I will be using and how I will be testing it

My program will be in java, preferably using the latest java 1.8.0 and will be created using the IDE called IntelliJ from IDEA, whilst using a SQLITE database (not 100% decided on type of database). For testing, I will ask my colleagues who currently use the limited spreadsheet system to test the program based on what spreadsheet they monitor, for example one of the colleagues manage services users therefore they will be testing part of the software that manages service users that are moving in, out or relocating between properties resulting in valuable feedback