

Information Security guidance for China

General principles

- Full adherence to national legislation and standards
- Normal University security policy applies, with local China rules taking precedence
- Transparency to authorities of infrastructure provision
- Compliance with the University's General Conditions of Use of Computing and Network:
<http://www.it.bham.ac.uk/policy/documents/UoBGeneralCondofUseofComputing.pdf>

Local IT infrastructure

- Until UoB presence is more significant, expect to use normal 'ISP' services for connecting to the internet. It may be appropriate later to establish a direct connection to CERNET2 (China's Education and Research Network – similar to JANET), and/or direct private links to the UK.
- With limited IP address options, a local firewall will be essential (to map between local and public internet addresses).
- Local guidance should be sought regarding wireless access. Wireless may provide greater flexibility and help overcome possible lack of local data cabling on site.
- In order to expedite initial services, MS Outlook should be the email client for users, connecting back to MS Exchange mailboxes operated in Birmingham. Web access to Exchange mailboxes (via 'OWA') may also be helpful.
- If there is a significant permanent presence locally, an on-site file server will be essential, for sharing and storing documents. Regular off-site backup must be provided.
- At this stage, local IT support services should be contracted out – to establish the network, server and desktop infrastructure.

Guidance for Birmingham visitors

- It is currently accepted practice to allow encrypted laptops into China. However no impediments should be created to prevent any persons in authority from inspecting any laptop/PC. Advice is to ensure any encryption keys/passwords are readily available.
- Wherever possible, sensitive information should not be carried as local copies on such laptops.
- Wireless services should be available, although historically China has used standards other than normal WIFI, so accessible coverage may be patchy.

Intellectual Property

- Staff should operate within the University's Data Protection policy, the Data Protection Act and other relevant regulations, particularly where there may be personal information recorded as part of collaborative research. Explicit consent will be required regarding the holding of such information outside the EU. Please contact Legal Services for advice.

Some basic guidance is available from the IOD website and more detailed advice can be obtained through Alta Innovations Limited: http://www.director.co.uk/ONLINE/2011/04_11_intellectual-property-protection-china.html

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