

Ireland's National Education & Research Network

HEAnet Overview for the EAPConnect Project

September 2023





Introduction

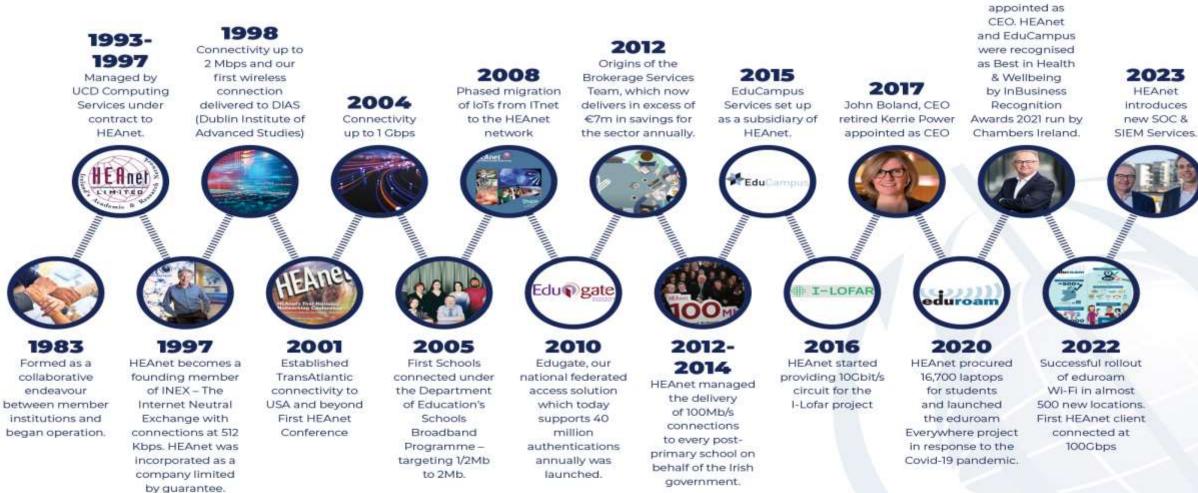
- HEAnet is a provider of critical ICT services which are fundamental to the daily operation of our Universities, Institutes of Technologies, other colleges, research organisations, and schools
- HEAnet is Ireland's National Education & Research Network
- Set up in 1983 as a collaborative body by the seven Irish Universities & The Higher Education Authority
- Incorporated in 1997 as a registered charity
- Funded primarily by the Department of Education and Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science in Ireland
- We procure and manage ICT services on behalf of the entire sector
- Our collective strengths allow us to provide services more cost-effectively than Higher Education Institutions and Schools procuring themselves
- Shared services model leverages economies of scale, economies of knowledge, economies of integration
- HEAnet saves approximately €20 million for the sector annually in Ireland
- Parent of EduCampus Services subsidiary company that provides managed SaaS services to sector
- https://www.heanet.ie/our-history





HISTORY TIMELINE

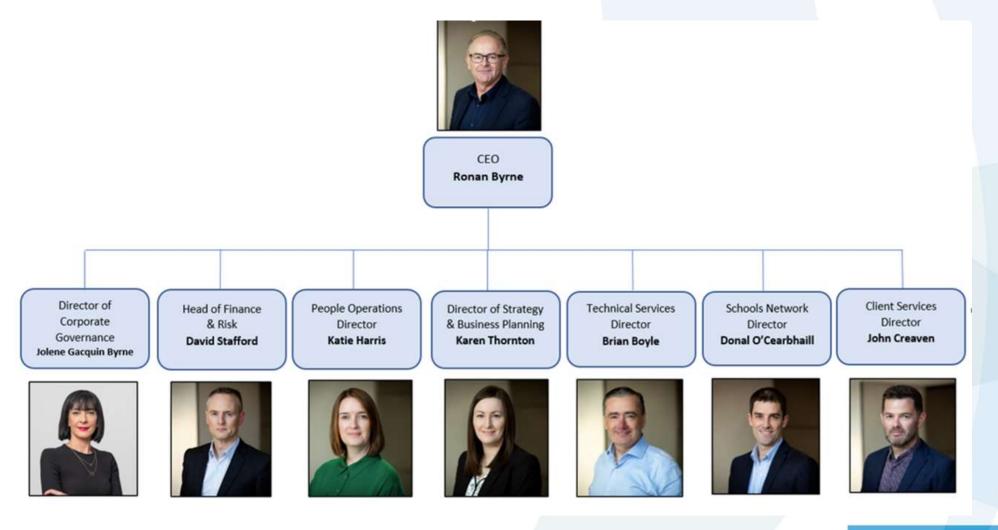
2021 Ronan Byrne



John Boland was appointed as the

first HEAnet CEO.

HEAnet Senior Management Team





Governance & Compliance

Companies Act Compliance

Charities Code Compliance

Governance of State Bodies Compliance (partial)

Performance Delivery Agreement with the Government

Business Performance and Delivery Agreement between Department of Education, Department of Further & Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, and HEAnet and EduCampus



Governance & Compliance

- HEAnet is a Company Limited by Guarantee and Not Having a Share Capital
- EduCampus Services is a subsidiary Company and is a Designated Activity Company, with 92% of its share capital held by HEAnet
- Both Companies have charitable tax status and are registered with the Charities Regulator

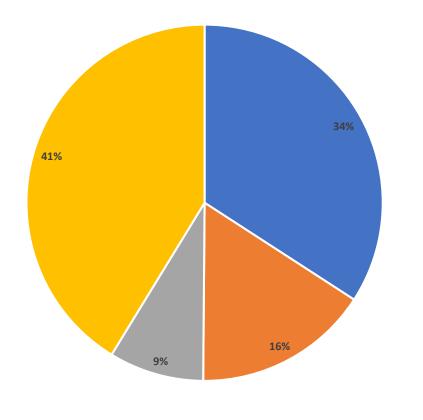


Governance & Compliance

- HEAnet and EduCampus each have a Board of Directors
- The Boards of HEAnet and EduCampus Services share <u>four</u> standing Group committees:
 - Group Audit & Risk Committee
 - Group Finance Sub-Committee
 - Group Nomination Committee
 - ➢Group Remuneration Committee



Funding



A 5-year budget forecast is submitted annually to the Government, to provde visibility of *future expenditure*

Government Funding

Client Membership/Contribution Fees

Chargeable Client Services

Schools

Who we serve

Universities



Technological Universities & Institutes of Technology

4,000 Schools



Who we serve

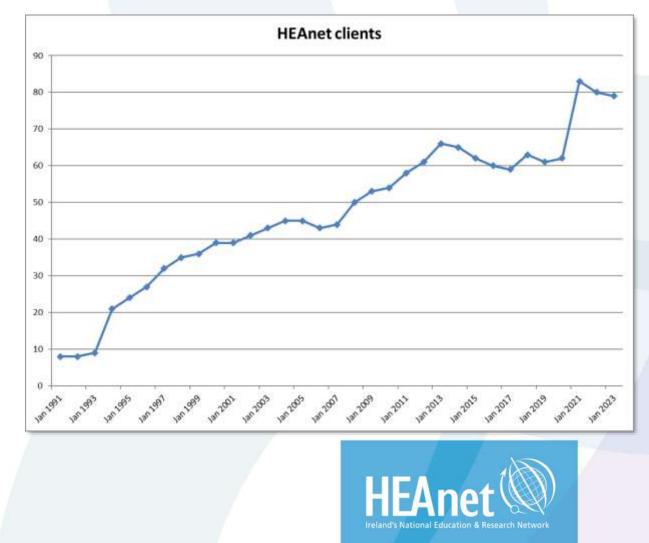
In excess of 1.2 million

staff, students and researchers rely on HEAnet services daily



Client Breakdown

- HEAnet have 79 clients, broken down as follows:
 - ≻13 Universities
 - ≻2 Institute of Technology
 - ➢9 Third and Further Education
 - ►16 ETBs
 - ≫39 Other organisations spread over Research and Education provision within the public sector



Client Engagement

Relationships

- Client Services team established for direct client engagement.
- Network Operations Centre ("NOC") for technical engagement.
- Board is represented by clients.
- Thought leadership fora established e.g., Cyber Security Advisory Group.
- Annual customer satisfaction surveys conducted.
- Quarterly client service reviews.

Engagement Channels

- Client Services team engagement with clients
- Traditional media i.e., newsletter, website and email.
- Meet the SME events.
- Annual conference.
- Annual report.
- Social media i.e., LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter.

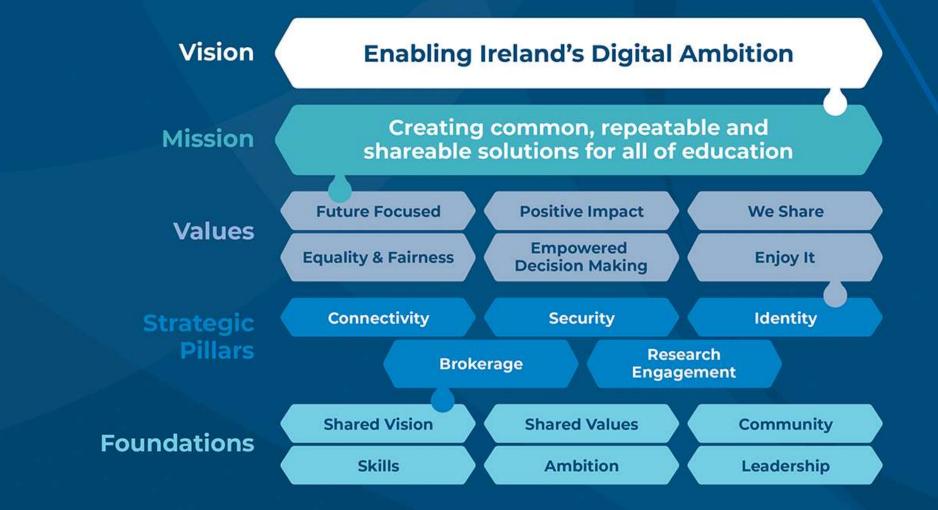
HEAnet Services Portfolio

Brokerage	Connectivity	Hosting	Identity	Security	Video
Brokerage Services Products / Suppliers	eduroam (Wifi) eduroam Everywhere	rywhere Transfer) sing Ny Media Hosting SAN Serv t Website Hosting Services	Edugate (federated single sign-on) SAML Identity Provider	ICT Security Services SOC & SIEM Services	5 Conferencing (DVC)
HEAnet Store	IP Connectivity Point-to-Point Other Connectivity		Services	Other Security Services Security Updates	
	Services				

https://www.heanet.ie/services



HEAnet Strategy



Connectivity

4,000 Schools Connected

eduroam

International Connectivity



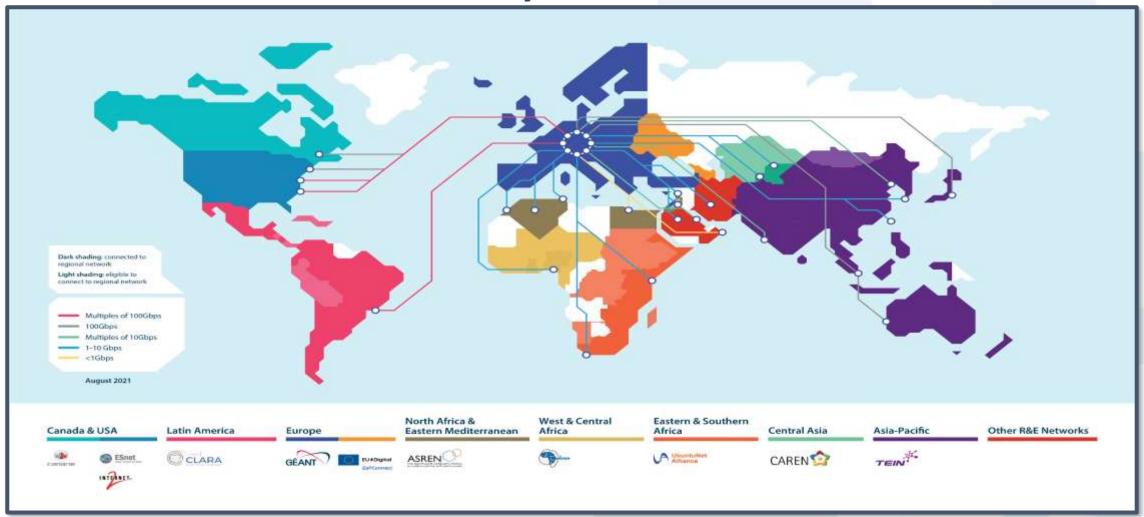
Connectivity - National Backbone Network

- We are a private network dedicated to the Irish education & research sector.
- The network equates to being one of largest on the island of Ireland.
- Backbone comprises of ~2,600km of fibre.
- We procure long-term managed dark fibre.
- We light and manage this dark fibre with our own fibre optical equipment.
- We build an IP transit layer on fibre layer.
- We peer at INEX and connect to GÉANT and JISC UK internationally.





Connectivity - Global Reach





Identity





Brokerage





Security





Research Engagement





Major Activities 2023

- Establish and expand SOC & SIEM (to all FE & HE* Institutions)
- Expansion of ICT Security Services (to all FE & HE Institutions)
- Primary School Broadband Improvement Programme
- International Connectivity Upgrade via GÉANT
- Juniper Backbone Network Refresh
- Research Engagement (Open Science, EuroQCI & EuroHPC)



Lessons Learned

- Establish a good relationship with funding bodies.
- Align with government strategy as they seek prudent organisations to fund.
- Measure and demonstrate value for money. Forecast potential savings for the education and research sector.
- Deliver on SLAs to provide evidence of value.
- Start small start with universities and grow the user base.
- Add value added services over time e.g., brokerage, identity etc.
- Awareness is key raise your profile and emphasise added value.
- Hold an annual conference to engage with stakeholders.
- Don't underestimate the governance associated with running an NREN.



HEAnet

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