Fair Usage Policy

Will the fair usage policy affect me?
At most the fair usage policy affects less than 50 people (8%) on ResNet

It is most likely to affect you if you use (for instance):

- peer to peer TV, such as Joost, BBC iplayer, Sky Anytime or 4oD
- software to download large files sourced externally to the Cambridge University Data Network (CUDN)
- streaming media, such as Youtube and Google Video for prolonged periods of time.

These are some of the uses, which generate the most traffic. Please note that the unauthorised use of p2p applications on ResNet is not permitted. If you have software of this type installed, you must ensure it is not active whilst the computer is connected to ResNet. The software can cause excessive traffic, even if you are not downloading any files, as others will be downloading files from you.

If you have a typical usage pattern such as email, web surfing and MSN, you are not likely to be affected.

What are the quotas?
The limit is **15GB (gigabytes) per calendar month** for data transferred outside of the *.cam.ac.uk network. Traffic within the CUDN (between sites within the *.cam.ac.uk domain) will not count towards your quota. For comparison, many commercial internet suppliers have a limit of just 10 GB when charging £15 per month. Usage patterns are constantly reviewed, and variations in the allocated quota amount may change periodically.

What is and how much is a GB?
Roughly one gigabyte is about 300 songs in MP3 format, or a two hour movie.
To be exact, 1GB is 1024 x 1024 x 1024 = 1,073,741,824 Bytes. Many Internet providers calculate 1GB as 1000 x 1000 x 1000 = 1,000,000,000 Bytes. We are calculating usage on the technically correct value of 1,073,741,824 Bytes in a GB (as this is more generous to ResNet subscribers).

What happens if I use too much?
In the event that you reach your quota limit, you will remain on the ResNet service, but will experience a much slower connection to the internet. This will adversely affect the operation of bandwidth hungry applications, such as streaming media or video chat, but you will still be able to undertake low bandwidth activities, such as web surfing or checking your e-mail. Traffic beyond your quota allowance, may be deducted from your next months allowance, or charged for if deemed appropriate.

Which traffic is counted?
It is important to know that total traffic is defined as upload plus download. Traffic between ResNet and Homerton is not counted.
**Traffic between ResNet and institutions within the University of Cambridge is not counted.**
Traffic between ResNet and the rest of the Internet is counted

Need more traffic?
Please ask your director of studies to contact us on the contact details below confirming you require in excess of 15GB per month for educational purposes and we can increase your quota.