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# Message from the Board

### Letter from LINX Chairman, Murray Steele

I am ever conscious that LINX is organised around the principle that the membership is central to everything we do, with a fundamental commitment to the concept of mutuality and the commercial and strategic trust that builds. That means our members can have confidence in LINX as a business partner, so essential when we are a long-term part of your infrastructure strategy. During my first year on the Board, I learnt a lot about this ethos and how it underpins decisions at every level of the organisation. In my second full year, 2017, I made sure to apply these principles.

During 2017, I have sought to enhance the Board's understanding of its own role in governing the organisation, and strengthen the working relationship between the Board and the employed staff, especially the senior management team. As part of this process, the elected Board members decided that they wanted to be able to invite up to three executives to join them as directors, taking a full part in the leadership of LINX.

As a major change to our governance, naturally this entailed a very extensive member consultation process. While members immediately supported the idea in principle, they did initially ask us to reconsider aspects of how we drafted these changes, focussing on simplification and avoiding over-engineering our rulebook. Guided by that invaluable feedback, we were able to revise our proposals, and the members overwhelmingly supported the improved constitution. While not getting everything perfect at the first attempt can smart, I sincerely believe that we are stronger from being able to call on the membership to help us get these crucial changes just right.

We go into 2018 stronger than ever. The exchange platform is meeting members' high expectations for both reliability and performance, and this is reflected both in member satisfaction surveys and in performance indicators such as growing member numbers and traffic volumes. With strengthened governance methods and a great team, I am convinced LINX will be able to meet the future with confidence.

### CEO's Report

# Not every year is a year of big new announcements, the expansion of new LANs or the launch of new member-facing services. In a field of core infrastructure such as Internet Exchange Points, it is both to be expected and desirable that some years we will instead concentrate on less visible improvements, so we simply get better at

what we do. 2017 was just such a year.

In Public Affairs too, 2017 was a year spent securing the legacy of ICANN transition from US oversight to community leadership, as we worked through implementation of transition commitments, and preparing for the 2018 ITU Plenipotentiary, a new UK government cybersecurity strategy and the possibly altered politics of a post-Brexit environment. Fortunately, the UK government was sufficiently distracted with Brexit preparations that we have not been inundated with new legislative proposals this year.

This rather low-key review of 2017 does not mean it was an unremarkable year in all respects. Membership, traffic and port sales all continued to grow, reaching their highest ever levels.

Network Stability and Future Investment

We now serve over 800 ASNs from more than 750 members from 75 countries. We are certainly making the point to the UK government that the UK's high level of interconnectedness is a strategic asset underpinning economic capacity for Brexit Britain. Our aggregate traffic continues to climb ever greater peaks, showing that members still derive enormous value from public peering despite the move of the core traffic driver of video to onnet caching.

Financially, LINX remains in robust shape, making a small surplus of £116,000 despite the steep price cuts we announced in August 2017. As a percentage of turnover, this surplus is less than 0.5%, demonstrating our fidelity to running lean and returning value to members.

Our member satisfaction survey also showed gratifying results, with our members scoring us higher than our principal comparators on the key metrics of exchange stability, engineering competence, responsiveness to members and ease of doing business. Our Public Affairs work continues to enjoy overwhelming member support, and approval ratings of over 90% in all its key performance metrics.

"As I look to 2018. I expect to report much more visible changes, when our investment in our partnership with EdgeCore and IP Infusion pays off and we deploy a fully disaggregated exchange on LON2. In the meantime, we can be very satisfied that in 2017 LINX has done what it does best. quietly delivering increasing performance and value for members."

> John Souter, LINX Chief Executive Officer



LINX Member Conferences

LINX member conferences are held four times a year and have been a key part of LINX community activities ever since LINX was founded in 1994. These gatherings provide members with a valuable opportunity to meet with peers, to share knowledge and also to keep up to date with technical and regulatory matters. General Meetings are held twice annually where members vote on resolutions that govern the association as well as elect directors to the LINX Board.

#### LINX96 - February

The first member meeting of the year included plenty of member involvement including Neil McRae of BT speaking on the developments on G.fast and Thomas Mangin explaining how Exa Networks were working with Akamai to improve HTTP(S) traffic flows. Adrian Kennard of Andrews & Arnold also asked the question if the industry is moving towards "Internet Access being a utility". Chairman Murray Steele ran a LINX Governance session which included proposed changes to AGM and board election processes.

#### LINX97 & AGM - May

The 97th member conference featured the LINX AGM and annual Board election. Five candidates stood and following voting, Seb Lahtinen of Netconnex and Lee Hetherington of Facebook were both elected for three year terms. Feedback tells us that delegates like to hear about the experiences of exchanges in other

regions and at LINX97 two European IXPs joined us; NIX.CZ from the Czech Republic and BIX, the Budapest Internet Exchange.

### LINX98 - August

In August LINX continued its policy of taking its summer conferences out of London, this time to Manchester. There was a strong governance element to proceedings with Head of Public Affairs, Malcolm Hutty, speaking on the NIS, copyright and data retention directives while JISC's Andrew Cormack gave a comprehensive overview on GDPR. LINX98 guest speaker, Philip Smith, covered IXPs in Asia and the formation of LINX in the early 90s. After LINX98 had concluded, Philip kindly ran a fully subscribed three day BGP workshop for LINX members.

#### LINX99 & EGM - November

The final meeting of the year had a broad range of technical content including talks on Geolocating Infra-Structure and the role of the manufacturer in improving security for IoT. LINX99 attendees also witnessed the presentation of the seventh LINX Conspicuous Contribution Award, which went to long-term partner and associate of LINX, Michelle Reid of Telehouse Europe.

both in terms of the very high level of operational stability of the peering platforms, and a stable range of services. Investment was focussed on improving internal efficiency, deploying new automated configuration management and continuing to augment our toolsets, while preparing for a future

disaggregated model on LON2.

investment for LINX. Stability,

### The Year Ahead

# Flexible Solutions for Member Needs

Disaggregation and the use of EVPN will allow us much more flexibility in how to meet the members' needs going forward.

The launch of the disaggregated solution for LON2 will without doubt be the largest challenge for 2018 but will also be an exciting opportunity for LINX. EVPN will allow innovative solutions for everything from port migrations to redundancy solutions for members.

Besides the work on the disaggregated solution for LON2 much of the focus for 2017 has been on automation, which is something that will continue in 2018. Across all departments we are looking at automation and increased use of tools to support existing processes. We believe this will improve the responsiveness of LINX for members, but also allow increased flexibility to match members' needs in the future.

While a lot of this work is in regard to internal processes and tools that are not visible to the outside, this work also includes increased availability of tools to members. The first of these tools are available in the new LINX Member portal which is part of the new LINX website. We plan to continue to add functionality to the new member portal over time and are also exploring various options for members to be able to update their configuration directly via APIs.

These two developments together, the cost effective disaggregated solution for LON2 and the increased use of tools and automation are part of the overall effort at LINX to scale for the future. LINX needs to maintain economies of scale while managing continued growth and delivery of the same high level of service as our members have come to expect.

### **Regional Exchanges**

LINX Manchester continues to be the fastest growing of the regional IXPs, as well as the largest IXP outside of London, measured in number of members and traffic. We believe that LINX Manchester has now reached critical mass and expect to see continued growth through 2018 thereby passing 100 connected ASNs. We are further aiming for having more than 100 members connected by the end of 2018.

During 2018 LINX will complete the work of assisting in the distribution of the Scottish Government funding for furthering peering in Scotland. This program has had a positive reception and we are seeing growing interest in peering at LINX Scotland. We expect to process further applications in 2018 which will allow more networks to connect. Outside of the funding we will also continue to build on interest in LINX Scotland and we are expecting to see further growth of especially local content and access networks at LINX Scotland.

LINX Cardiff has had slow or negative growth in the past years. Together with the initial founders of the IX we will look at ways to reviving interest in LINX Cardiff during the year. "While we do not anticipate building any new regional IXPs during 2018 we are continuing discussions with local stakeholders regarding possible locations. The most prominent possible location is Belfast where discussions to secure enough local interest and support has been ongoing for some time."

Kurtis Lindqvist, LINX Chief Marketing Officer



# Networking in a Software Centric World

Network disaggregation and automation were important drivers for LINX's infrastructure development during 2017.

We had two major initiatives from 2016 that we have carried across to 2017 - network disaggregation and automation. As we continued to challenge ourselves across the network and peering ecosystem and we strived towards delivering automation, we had to invest a lot of effort internally. This focused on our team development, skills, work practices and mindset, all having to evolve towards that of a more software-centric operating model, rather than a typical networking one.

October saw us release the first version of the LINX-built network configuration automation (NCA) platform. The platform links a front-end user interface, through a customer services inventory and a LINX API into an abstracted and off-line network configuration engine. Change is driven from selecting new features applicable to the member or network design, which are then pushed into the configuration engine, automatically comparing the abstracted elements with the planned changes and to a current state of the live network.

Once the 'code review' or network change is approved the automation engine deploys the change into the abstracted network model and into the live network. The advantage this gives is centralised control of configuration, SDN-like but distributed, network resilience - delivering the much desired sub-50ms restoration across LON1.

Whilst it was 2016 that saw us shortlist two key partners to support us in the move to disaggregation and open compute networking, it was in 2017 that we planned to make the transition from feasibility study to operational reality.

We did make good progress with the two partners - IP Infusion for the network operating system (NOS) and Edgecore Networks for the Ethernet switches - but our delivery target of 2017 ultimately proved too challenging. A couple of setbacks came up, first in building a scalable EVPN over MPLS solution and secondly, in the delayed release of a general available (GA) software version from IP Infusion. In resolving these, we switched from EVPN over MPLS to EVPN over VxLAN to mitigate the scaling concerns and we asked IP Infusion for an extra cycle in GA code review to resolve any final issues. We then worked in partnership to improve their quality assurance processes for Internet Exchange Point (IXP) architectures.

These factors pushed operational readiness from late 2017 into early 2018. However, these delays have been acceptable on two fronts, we continue to squeeze out every piece of capacity and performance on the Extreme Networks LAN and we continue to hold operational stability as a beacon of achievement as we consider risk and migration needs.

In general, we also maintained healthy installation rates across 100GE access ports, pushing us over the 100 x 100GE member ports level. The level of 10GE access ports, whilst dipping as members moved from 10GEs to 100GEs, rebounded during the second half of 2017 to see us move back over the 1000 mark, or 10Tb/s of access capacity for 10GE port rates.

The main goals as we move from 2017 into 2018 are given here. First is to migrate members to the new LON2 network platform, which will run IP Infusion's OcNOS software and Edgecore Networks Ethernet devices. Then we look to extend the NCA platform across all LAN vendors and all LAN locations. In addition, plans are in place to drive the development of the LINX portal to build greater membership engagement as well as allow better network insight. Finally, we are also looking to open the API to give the ability for members to access network elements directly.

"Our partnerships with Edgecore Networks and IP Infusion will be increasingly important as we work towards the migration of members to the new LON2 network platform during 2018"

Richard Petrie, LINX Chief Technical Officer



### June 2017: LINX receive 'Recognised Leader of IXPs - UK' prize in TMT Telecoms Awards

### **UK Exchanges**

### Keeping Network Traffic Local

Keeping Internet traffic local is one of the keystones for a fast and efficient internet. In order to promote this ethos LINX has a regional development programme to build UK local Internet exchanges.

"Building an Internet exchange is more than just about the location and technology. It is about building relationships with networks and content

suppliers on a local, national and ultimately international level and convincing them to peer locally. That is the difficult part of building a regional Internet exchange."

> Jo Fereday, LINX Product Manager

### LINX Manchester

The largest regional exchange in the group is LINX Manchester with presence in three datacentres in the Manchester area.

In 2017 traffic consistently increased throughout the year and reached an all time peak of 82Gbps. The exchange also saw the membership grow with 11 new members bringing the total connected members to 93 at the end of 2017, 2017 also saw the first member connected with a 100GE port. The steering committee in Manchester is active and there is a thriving local technology community. This was demonstrated by the two events run by LINX locally in 2017 including a local exchange meeting. This was a well-attended meeting and provided useful feedback for LINX on the operations and future of LINX Manchester. The second event organised was focused on training, in response to feedback from local members.

#### LINX Scotland

With a second site, LINX Scotland will be more resilient and offer increased choice to potential new members.

During 2017 The Scottish Wide Area Network (SWAN) joined the exchange, as did the BBC, helping to create the mix of content providers and access providers needed for a successful IX. Both of these events are results of the development plan that was devised by the steering committee together with the Scottish Futures Trust. This work will continue into 2018.

### LINX Cardiff

The initial sponsors of the exchange in Cardiff were less active in 2017, and somewhat disappointingly the number of members at the exchange dropped at the end of the year.

Aware of the stalled state of development of the exchange, LINX staff began discussions with local stakeholders about what could be done to turn things around.

The Welsh Government's stated aim is to have a comprehensive strategy for growth of the technology sector in Wales, and they have said that they feel that a local internet exchange is integral to this strategy. On that basis, we are working with them to revive the fortunes of LINX Cardiff.

Your exchange in Northern Virginia made pleasing progress during 2017 with us surpassing 50 member networks, including those who were in provisioning, by the end of the year. Just as pleasing was the fact we managed to double the number of access network ASNs on the exchange over the same time; something that is critical to its long-term success. Member edge capacity now exceeds 500Gbps and naturally this growth brings with it new traffic peaks, something which had been reasonably static in previous years.

Towards the end of the year Digital Realty (DLR) acquired DuPont Fabros (DFT) as the data centre market continues to consolidate which will eventually give members and networks across all of the DLR Ashburn buildings access to the LINX switch inside the legacy DFT facility.

LINX saw a continued growth in membership from USA based members - including in London. New members from America accounted for 18% of all new applications in 2017 (11% in 2016) to which LINX America team also made a solid contribution.

#### The Future

The next stage in the evolution of LINX NoVA is to increase the number of second tier networks connected (both access and content), which is where many members will see the most benefits.

In addition to driving scale and therefore revenues we will be looking at where we can save costs, without impacting our objectives, in order to move further towards financial self-sufficiency over the course of 2018.

LINX NoVA

"Acting on behalf of LINX, the LINX America team made a solid contribution to the overall growth of participants in London and the USA during 2017."



### Exchange Growth

### "2017 was the year when LINX passed one hundred 100GE ports and exceded 800 connected ASNs. We also passed one thousand 10GE ports in use across all the exchanges." Kurtis Lindavist, LINX Chief Marketing Officer

### Developing a Global and Diverse Networking Community

While 100GE port growth initially was slower than expected this picked up towards the end of the year and we saw 100GE ports grow by 42%. We're also seeing growth in 10GE ports which grew by 9% in 2017. This brought the total edge capacity to 21.62Tbps by the end of the year. This is an increase of connected capacity to all LINX LANs by 23% in one year compared to 18% in 2016. Membership and connected ASNs grew by 5% over 2017 closing the year with 778 members and 820 ASNs.

During 2017 we saw a drop in applications via the ConneXions program with 25% of applications coming via a ConneXions partner compared to 36% in 2016.

### **Partnerships**

LINX has always worked very closely with a large number of partners: the datacentres where LINX is hosted; the partners that resell LINX ports under one of the reseller programs; and other IXPs around the world that we work closely with.

Looking ahead to 2018, LINX has a number of initiatives planned across all these partnerships. We are continuing to work closely with our datacentre partners to raise awareness of peering and the benefits it brings for their customers. We have seen a lot of interest from other IXPs regarding the disaggregated work on LON2 and will, during 2018, share our experiences with them. Interest in LINX's LON2 is not limited to just the IXPs but also includes their members, and during 2019 we also will share our findings with the members of our IXP partners.

778	LINX Members
820	Member ASNs
76	Member Countries
102	New applications in 2017
4	Terabits per second peak traffic on the public exchai
1005	Member-facing 10GE ports
112	Member-facing 100GE ports
21.62	Terabits of connected capacity
535000	Routes peered at LINX (maximal)
675000	Global routing table routes
79%	Percentage of global routes available at LINX

### Products and Services by end of 2017

#### **LINX Products**

- Public Peering
   Network traffic exchanged over a shared network
- Private Interconnect

  Member point-to-point connections
- LINX from Anywhere Remote Layer 2 connections
- ConneXions
   LINX connection via vLAN
- New Member rack space
   Rack space at PoPs available directly through LINX
- vPoPs
   Datacentres providing remote connections to a LINX peering LAN
- Branded PoPs Via a LINX approved Layer-2 carrier
- Transmission PoP
  Via a resilient DWDM connection
- IXP Reseller
   LINX connection from an existing (mutual or non-profit) Internet exchange
- Bi-Directional Optical Transceivers NEW!
  Bi-Di transceivers allow the transmitting
  and receiving of data on a single fibre

### LINX Local Exchanges

- LINX Manchester
  Peering LAN in North-West England
- LINX NoVA
  Peering LAN in Northern Virginia, USA
- LINX Scotland
   Peering LAN in Edinburgh, Scotland
- LINX Cardiff
   New peering LAN in Cardiff, Wales

#### LINX Services

- Public Affairs
   Membership representation on matters of public policy
- Route Servers
   Free peering service of member advertised routes
- Time Servers
   LINX time servers distribute high accuracy
   time

In 2017 LINX launched the option of connecting to LINX using a Bi-Directional optical transceiver.

Initially available in LINX Manchester it is expected that the service will be available across all LINX exchanges in 2018.

### **Public Policy**

# Influencing Internet Governance in the UK and Internationally

Brexit continued to dominate thinking in policy-making circles, perhaps distracting government from bringing forward many substantial new legislative initiatives. With preparations for Brexit underway, and popular fears of "uncertainty" about regulatory divergence from the EU, it was perhaps unsurprising that policy-makers felt that 2017 was not the time to initiate new policy that would create barriers with Europe.

For LINX, the most important regulatory development was the forthcoming implementation of the Network Information Security Directive. The UK implementing legislation was delayed until 2018, but LINX engaged with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport on this topic throughout 2017. Elsewhere in the sector, particularly amongst businesses for whom user data is the essence of the business, preparations for the implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation acquired an equivalent focus.

The UK government launched a new "digital strategy" that sought to unify and consolidate UK policy-making at a high level. Little in this pointed to very specific new policy initiatives, but the underlying themes, especially in the field of child protection, may give rise to specific initiatives in the future.



2016 culminated in the very high-profile event of the transition of ICANN from being subject to US government authority to oversight by the global multi-stakeholder community. 2017 was therefore a year spent implementing the commitments made during the transition process.

One of the critical elements was implementation of the Independent Review Process, a quasijudicial arbitration panel designed to hear complaints that ICANN has failed to follow its own rules correctly, or has acted outside the authorised scope of its mission. This entails creating a set of rules of procedure for the IRP to apply. LINX participated in the committee that drafted these rules of procedure, and conducted a public consultation on their adequacy; the rules are expected to be finalised in 2018.

2017 also saw the initial preparatory steps for the plenipotentiary conference of the International Telecommunications Union that will take place in 2018

"The UK government has established itself as a leading example of multistakeholder engagement in ITU affairs, and LINX is an active contributor to the UK's representation."

Malcolm Hutty, LINX Head of Public Affairs



### Financial Report

Statement of Income and		
Retained Earnings	2017 (£)	2016 (£)
Turnover	15,739,668	15,148,821
Distribution costs	(1,727,022)	(1,371,868)
Administrative expenses	(14,062,411)	(13,763,906)
Other operating income	191,958	208,842
Operating surplus	142,193	221,889
Interest receivable	2,073	6,794
Surplus / (deficit) before taxation	144,266	228,683
Tax on surplus from non-core activities	(11,210)	(2,797)
Surplus/ (deficit) after taxation	133,056	225,886
Retained earnings at beginning of year	11,701,469	11,475,583
Retained earnings at end of year	11,834,525	11,701,469

Balance Sheet		
	2017 (£)	2016 (£)
Fixed assets	7,491,247	8,535,193
Current assets	6,666,225	6,166,597
Current liabilities	(2,322,947)	(3,000,321)
Net assets	11,834,525	11,701,469

### Income and Retained Earnings Overview

Price reductions, which would normally have been introduced at the beginning of 2017, were made earlier, in August 2016. During the year further price cuts were made for services on our Manchester exchange. Notwithstanding the continuing trend of price cuts our income continued to grow. Expenditure was kept under control and in line with revenue growth. Both revenue and expenditure were at variance from our plans by less than 5%. We planned for, and achieved, a small surplus in 2017.

With the further price cuts made in January 2018 we have projected a deficit for 2018, however this will be managed well within the reserves we currently hold. The Directors consider that the company has maintained an appropriate balance between a satisfactory financial status and the policy of continuing to reduce prices. Membership grew by 5%, connected capacity increased by 17%, and these positive results were supplemented by achieving very high network reliability. Overall, we achieved good performance results, both operationally and financially.

### Balance Sheet Summary

We maintained a strong and healthy balance sheet with our net assets being at a satisfactory level, and marginally higher than in 2016. Investment into expanding and improving our networks continued but, at a spend of £2.6M, which is less than in recent years.

Our capital expenditure spend was exceeded by the depreciation charge in the year, and this resulted in a fall in the net book value of our fixed assets. Our current assets continue to include a significant level of liquid funds. Our current liabilities include the prudent provision for unearned income based on in-advance billing.

Cash Flow				
	2017 (£)	2016 (£)		
Cash and equivalents at beginning of year	3,098,805	3,009,297		
Operating surplus/(deficit) for the year	133,056	221,889		
Add-back depreciation charge	3,695,761	3,851,697		
Add-back movement in debtors/creditors	610,570	71,005		
Taxation paid	(7,268)	(1,013)		
Cash flow from operating activities	4,432,119	4,143,578		
Purchase of fixed assets	(2,658,692)	(4,043,098)		
Foreign exchange movement on fixed assets	6,878	(17,766)		
Interest receivable	2,073	6,794		
Overall cash flow for the year	1,782,378	89,508		
Cash and equivalents at end of year	4,881,183	3,098,805		

### Cash Flow Analysis

Demand for new services continued and the control of our expenditure resulted in the balance of our liquid funds increasing.

The considerably higher level of liquid funds included £0.4m relating to a network expansion project in Scotland, which we are managing on behalf of the Scottish government.

Purchase of Fixed Assets				
	2017 (£)	2016 (£)		
Network assets	2,558,692	3,637,341		
Leashold property improvements	10,310	218,339		
Computer equipment	97,813	187,418		
Total fixed assets purchased	2,630,477	4,043,098		

### **Summary of Fixed Assets**

Our services continue to grow, although not at the same high pace as in recent years. This has resulted in a reduced need to spend on expanding our network assets. However, we continue to invest in improved technology which will enable us to deliver services more efficiently.

The spend on leasehold improvements was much less than in recent years following the completion of improvement plans for our Peterborough and London offices.

"A strong financial position was again maintained during a period of ongoing price reductions, and we continued to invest in the implementation of new improved technology."

> Malcolm Holt, LINX Chief Finance Officer

### LINX in the Wider World

## Partners, Associates and Supporting Organisations

#### Euro-IX

Euro-IX, the European Internet Exchange
Association, currently has 80 member IXPs from
around the world. LINX is a founding member of
Euro-IX and during 2017 LINX CEO John Souter



EuroISPA

stood down from the Euro-IX board and the role as treasurer, having been the only board member to serve since the organisation was formed in 2001. LINX CMO, Kurtis Lindqvist continues to serve as the chairman of the board.LINX regularly meets with the IXP community at Euro-IX conferences to discuss and share ideas and experiences for the mutual advantage of the membership. This is done via technical meetings, mailing lists and online resources. Euro-IX also gathers information on regulatory issues affecting member exchanges that could potentially impact the membership from within the European region, and other jurisdictions. In the future.

#### **EuroISPA**

A key partner for LINX is EuroISPA, the pan-European association for

organisations representing the ISP industry. Working with EuroISPA allows us to influence policy and legislation at the EU level, which it has done efficiently and effectively for many years. Malcolm Hutty, LINX's Head of Public Affairs, served as President of the association for five years. He is currently chair of the Intermediary Liability Committee, and the Global Internet Governance Committee.

### **Internet Exchange Federation**

IX-F, the Internet Exchange Federation, is a global platform for associated Internet Exchange Point Associations, including Euro-IX. Its goal is for

exchanges to collaborate "to build a global IXP



community and help the development of IXPs throughout the world". LINX CEO John Souter served on the board until he stepped down from the board of Euro-IX.

### Internet Watch Foundation

LINX played a pivotal role in the creation and startup of the Internet Watch



Foundation (IWF). One of the roles of the organisation is to assist hosting providers identify and remove child abuse images hosted on their servers. In 2016 the IWF celebrated its 20th anniversary. In 1996, the UK hosted 18% of the world's known online child sexual abuse material. Today, it hosts just 0.2%.

### Internet Society

The policy and international engagement activities of the Internet Society (ISOC) are rooted



in the organisation's fundamental belief that the Internet is for everyone and should be available to people everywhere. ISOC works with governments, national and international bodies, civil society organisations, the private sector, and other stakeholders to reach decisions about the Internet that conform to its core values.

ISOC's mission to preserve and protect the open, collaborative, distributed, multi-stakeholder model is strongly supported by LINX and its stance has defined the successful development of the Internet for many years. As an "Organisational Member" of the Internet Society, membership enables LINX to influence Internet policy on a global stage, through international forums such the IGF, the ITU and ICANN.





LINX has enjoyed a supportive and collaborative relationship with its community partners over many years.

It is through these relationships within the Internet community that LINX is able to provide members representation at a global level, the opportunity to benchmark performance, and offer a role in helping make the Internet a safer and more trusted space. There is also the opportunity for members to influence policies and procedures in the UK and overseas.