

Report title: Wikimania 2014 Report	Author: Stuart Prior
Date: 13 th / 14 th September	Status: For decision
Report description: Staff report to the board	



Item	Explanation	Action required	Risk
Note – Full board Wikimania Update	Update of progress on Wikimania 2014	None.	There are no significant risks to note.

Wikimania 2014

Since joining Wikimedia UK in late October to assist with Wikimania 2014, I have established relationships with the volunteer Bid Team and have been progressing some of the issues around the conference.

Initially there were some challenges due to some communication difficulties and scheduling problems. Once contact with James was established, consultation on building the pitch to sponsors progressed quite slowly but we have built some momentum now and will be in a position to pitch to sponsors in a matter of days.

He has done good work on building relationships with potential donors, and I feel his insight and experience in the area are invaluable to the fundraising process, so I am glad that we have taken the time to re-establish the relationship.

I have also been in regular contact with Ed, discussing the content of the conference, for which he has been doing a lot of community outreach and public relations work. We have discussed the types of sponsors/partnerships we want to have, and that these are all in accord with Wikimedia's goals and ethos.

Additionally, Declan and I have met the venue managers at the Barbican, discussing the numerous practical aspects of holding the conference (AV, Wifi, Catering, Ticketing and Health & Safety), from which I conclude that we will likely require more volunteers involved in the planning process, at least in the new year.

We have also been having conference calls involving Ellie Young (Conference Coordinator at the Foundation), to ensure that WMUK, WMF and the Bid Team are all on the same page. These have been useful recently in terms of coordinating our fundraising strategy with that of the Foundation's.

Our next move is to approach the Open Data Institute to offer a partnership arrangement for the conference. This would be a good match in terms of our ethos and mutual agendas.

We also have a potential sponsors in the City of London Corporation that James has been working on. Additionally, Google, Nesta and the Technology Strategy Board are relationships we are working on.

Along with the bid materials, I have begun establishing a clear budget for each aspect of the conference, which will help us in terms of our fundraising targets and overall strategy.

Overall, I feel we have made significant progress in the past month, and I feel that my joining the team has benefited a project that was stalled, and required another pair of hands to help move forward. I am confident that we will be on schedule as long as we maintain that momentum.