

FINANCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

15TH APRIL 2003

NETWORK HARDWARE UPGRADES AND REPLACEMENT

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

ABSTRACT

This report advises of the network hardware upgrades and replacements at several major sites to reduce congestion in data traffic and enhance network performance.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the committee agree the provision of £60,000 from the IT Repairs and Renewals Fund to upgrade and replace network hardware and infrastructure.

2. BACKGROUND

The Department of Information Technology is reviewing the capacities of the Local Area Networks within several major offices within the Council. The existing LAN infrastructure was designed several years ago for much less data-intensive applications than are currently in use. Further planned application developments as the Council's e-government strategy is implemented will increase the pressure on the infrastructure.

3. PROPOSAL

Several offices have been identified as requiring upgrades to their local networks, in order to avoid data-congestion and provide increased capacity the project will be carried out in Phases at the following sites:

Phase 1:	County Buildings	£17,000
Phase 2:	St. James House	£17,000
Phase 3:	Bruce House	£ 7,000
Phase 4:	Dewar House/Academy Lane	£19,000

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The estimated cost of the upgrades is £60,000. This cost can be contained within the Repairs and Renewals Fund balances. Procurement of specialised equipment will be subject to tender.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

6. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive and the Directors of Finance and Law and Administration have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

A Greenhill
Director of Information Technology

NOTE: No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.