

ANGUS COUNCIL**EDUCATION COMMITTEE****FINANCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE****JOINT REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND DIRECTOR OF
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY****PURCHASING ARRANGEMENTS FOR AUDIO VISUAL AND EDUCATIONAL
COMPUTING EQUIPMENT****ABSTRACT**

This report seeks approval for continuing existing purchasing arrangements for the procurement of audio visual and educational computing equipment in conjunction with Dundee City and Perth and Kinross Councils.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Education Committee and Finance and Information Technology Committee agree purchasing arrangements as outlined in this report in respect of Educational audio visual and computing equipment for financial year 1996/97 during which period the situation will be reviewed.

2. BACKGROUND

The Education Department within Tayside Regional Council purchased audio visual and computing equipment through Dryburgh Education Resources Centre (DERC). The Education Committee gave approval for the Manager at DERC to negotiate directly with suppliers to ensure most advantageous prices were secured. All purchases were delivered to DERC for onward transportation to the appropriate establishment.

The Education Department and other departments of the Regional Council took advantage of these favourable terms and conditions. The arrangements approved by the Regional Council were for a period of 3 years which expired on 31st March 1996.

3. PROPOSAL

Immediately prior to local government re-organisation the Manager of DERC had discussions with the suppliers involved and they indicated a willingness to continue the previous discount structures although now dealing with 3 individual and smaller Councils. In order to take advantage of this situation and provide the suppliers with a co-ordinated approach by the 3 authorities it is proposed to adopt the following procedure.

An appropriate member of the Education Department, Dundee City Council resource centre will continue to liaise with the suppliers on behalf of the 3 authorities, produce a catalogue of audio visual and computing equipment for use in educational establishments, order and arrange delivery of audio visual equipment. The ordering, delivery and installation of computing equipment within Angus Council will be dealt with through the Department of Information Technology.

The Directors of Education and Information Technology consider these proposals to represent value for money to the Council. Extending the period of these arrangements for a one year period will ensure continuity through the transitional period while affording the opportunity to examine the position in the longer term.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Angus Council contribution towards the provision of services under these proposals will be £5,000 for which there is provision within the existing Education Department revenue budget. This cost will be more than offset by savings generated through the favourable price negotiations with suppliers.

5. CONSULTATION

The Director of Law and Administration and Director of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report

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 this report.

J Anderson
Director of Education

A Greenhill
Director of Information Technology