

ANGUS COUNCIL

RESOURCES AND CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – 9<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2004

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TRAINING

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**ABSTRACT**

This report seeks approval for a comprehensive training programme for Information Technology staff at an estimated cost of £28,000.

**1 RECOMMENDATION**

The Committee is recommended to:

- i) approve the provision of technical training for staff at an estimated cost of £28,000
- ii) agree to exemption from normal contract arrangements as permitted by Financial Regulation 16.1.4 and
- iii) note that a standing list of consultancy and training service providers will be drawn up to deal with future training requirements of the Department.

**2 BACKGROUND AND PROPOSAL**

Given the ever-changing technical environment in which the Department operates there is an ongoing training commitment to ensure that staff skills are adequately updated. A large portion of this training relates to Microsoft and other leading technologies and requires to be delivered by accredited suppliers. A detailed programme of training to meet the department's needs in the coming year has been prepared and suitable suppliers have been identified. A major part of the programme includes a series of Microsoft 2003 system components.

Included in the list of identified suppliers for this type of training is Angus College which has achieved accreditation to the Microsoft IT Academy Programme and where appropriate it is intended to take advantage of the reduction in travel/accommodation costs and the disruption to staff and have training delivered locally. The College have also indicated that there would be a discount from the normal rates for such courses.

However a number of other suppliers will be involved in the programme for the delivery of more specialised subjects and where for operational reasons and course scheduling alternative arrangements are required.

The proposal constitutes a significant contribution toward the updating of staff skills across the department in order to continue to provide an efficient IT support and development capability for the Council. It also signifies a move to a formal approach to the planning and delivery of personal development within the department in line with the aims of Investors in People by the creation of a standing list of training providers.

This standing list of appropriate suppliers will be maintained by the Department as permitted by Financial Regulation 16.1.4.

**3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION**

The estimated cost of the training programme is £28,000 and this can be contained within current revenue budgets.

4 **HUMAN RIGHTS**

There are no direct human rights implications arising from this report.

5 **CONSULTATION**

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

A Greenhill  
Director of Information Technology

09.09.2004

**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.