

ANGUS COUNCIL

**EXECUTIVE SUB-COMMITTEE OF RESOURCES AND CENTRAL SERVICES
11 AUGUST 2005**

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE
11 AUGUST 2005**

PROCUREMENT OF SOFTWARE (LAN DESK) FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

ABSTRACT

This report outlines proposals to procure LAN Desk (Network Management System) for server based primary schools

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Executive Sub-Committee of the Resources and Central Services Committee note the contents of this report for its information.

It is recommended that the Education Committee approves, in accordance with Financial Regulation 16.3.2c, the procurement of LAN Desk software from Touchpaper, for primary schools with servers as outlined in this report.

2 INTRODUCTION

At its meeting of 12 March 2002 the Finance and Information Technology Committee approved (Report 341/02) entitled Replacement of Helpdesk. This report sought approval to upgrade HelpDesk for Windows and to purchase AQuire licences – now known as “LAN Desk” for all corporate and secondary school servers and PC’s. It was not possible to purchase LAN Desk software for the primary sector at that time, as there were no servers installed in the primary schools and the primary network infrastructure was not capable of supporting LAN Desk.

At its meeting of 11 November 2004 the Education Committee approved Report 1316/04 ICT Provision in Primary Schools in which the Director of Education outlined the development work currently taking place in the primary sector. As part of this development, file servers, hubs and switches are being installed in primary schools. This investment in primary school infrastructure now allows the installation of LAN Desk onto the primary servers and PCs as they are being installed. This will bring the primary schools in line with secondary school and the corporate infrastructure.

LAN Desk will offer the primary sector the same benefits as being shown in both the secondary sector and the corporate sector. ICT Technical Support staff will use LAN Desk as a centralised network management tool which will reduce the need for support staff to make site visits when diagnosing faults and upgrading software. As many of our primary schools are in remote rural locations, the use of LAN Desk should reduce downtime and improve service levels and user satisfaction.

The council has been using an existing supplier (Touchpaper) who has been supplying the system and also have an established long standing support agreement with the council. To ensure best value is being achieved, an additional COSLA approved supplier of software (Phoenix Software) was asked to submit prices to confirm the council was still getting best value from the current supplier.

The costs for each are shown below:

Phoenix Software	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost 2005/06
LAN Desk Management Suite v8.1	1300	£38	£49,400
Support & Maintenance (2005/2006)			£9,750
			£59,150
Support & Maintenance (2006/07)			£11,250

Touchpaper	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost
LAN Desk Management Suite v8.1	1300	£20.50	£26,650
Support & Maintenance (2005/2006)			£5,915
			£32,565
Support & Maintenance (2006/07)			£11,685

3. PROPOSALS

It is proposed to purchase LAN Desk licences from Touchpaper for PCs in primary schools with file servers (and thereafter in the remaining primary schools as file servers are installed).

The Council's Financial Regulations makes specific provision at 16.3.2 (c) to permit a contract to be exempt from normal tender procedures where the services required are the subject of a long standing agreement which proves advantageous to the Council. The Council's Exemption Co-ordinator has been consulted regarding the proposal and has concluded that the requirement merits exemption from normal tendering procedures.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

In 2005/06 the cost of the proposal to purchase LAN Desk licences including annual support will be £32,565.

There will be additional costs in 2006/07 to enable the software to be installed in the remaining primary schools at an estimated cost of £5,658. The recurring revenue costs will be £11,685 in 2006/07 and £13,480 thereafter.

There is provision within the 2005/06 and future years Education Department ICT budget for this expenditure.

5 CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, the Acting Director of Finance, the Director of Law & Administration and the Director of Information Technology have been consulted on the terms of this report.

6 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no Human Rights implications arising from this report.

JIM ANDERSON
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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.