

## ANGUS COUNCIL

RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
18 JANUARY 2001PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY SERVICES COMMITTEE  
30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2001FINANCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE  
30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2001

## PEOPLES NETWORK FUNDING PROGRAMME

## REPORT BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF CULTURAL SERVICES

**ABSTRACT**

This report seeks to further inform members of the current progress of the *Peoples Network* Funding programme within Angus Council Cultural Services. In addition it seeks to homologate the decision to make additional financial resources available from within the 2001/2002 Cultural Services, from within the 2001/02 Cultural Services Revenue Budget and contributions from the Information Technology and Property Renewal and Repair Funds.

**1. RECOMMENDATION**

- a) That members note the progress of the funding application to the New Opportunities Fund for the introduction of Peoples Network terminals into all libraries within Angus Council Cultural Services.
- b) The respective Committees are also asked to homologate the decision to make additional funding available for the introduction of the Peoples Network from within the 2001/2002 from within the 2001/02 Cultural Services Revenue Budget and contributions from the Information Technology and Property Renewal and Repair Funds, viz:

	£
<b>Cultural Services 2001/02 Revenue Budget</b>	<b>10,000</b>
<b>IT R &amp; R Fund</b>	<b>15,840</b>
<b>Property R &amp; R Fund</b>	<b>35,200</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>61,040</b>

**2. BACKGROUND**

Further to the submission of the networking needs analysis form (PN1) Report No 850/00 of 17<sup>th</sup> August 2000 Cultural Services in partnership with IT and Property Services have submitted the final part of the funding application (PN2) to meet the amended deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> December 2000.

The PN2 application form supplies the New Opportunities Fund with full details on three specific aspects of the project.

- **Technical Solution**

This section covers the technical details of the work required to be undertaken to ensure the delivery of the *Peoples Network* within the individual library service points.

- **Project Management and Delivery**

This section covers the details of how Angus Council intends to manage and deliver the installation of the *Peoples Network* within Cultural Services.

- **Financial Details**

This section covers the detail of what the allocated *Peoples Network* funding will be spent on and what additional funding will be made available to complete the project.

An assessment of the submitted PN2 application will be made by the New Opportunities Fund and it is anticipated that, subject to approval of our proposals by NOF, a formal grant offer letter will be forwarded to Angus Council before the end of February 2001.

### **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The cost eligibility criteria applied by NOF has produced an NOF allocation of £196,962 as outlined in Report No 850/00 to the Recreation and Cultural Services Committee on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2000. The NOF award is dependent on the Council providing matched funding of 10% (£19,696) for related alterations to our libraries to accommodate the People's Network terminals and this sum has been allowed for within the Cultural Services Revenue Budget spread over financial years 2000/01 and 2001/02.

Cultural Services have taken the opportunity in conjunction with Information Technology and Property Services to incorporate future planned work within the People's Network programme of work for Libraries. The Information Technology and Property requirements include improved accessibility, lighting upgrades to conform to Display Screen Equipment Regulations, flooring improvements, related decoration, Information Technology network adaptations etc.

It is considered that this proposed packaging of the overall work programme brings about increased economies of scale and represents improved value for money to the Council as opposed to a piecemeal phased implementation programme with the associated additional disruption and potentially less competitive pricing.

The total estimated cost of the full programme of work is £277,698 and a funding resource of £216,658 already exists (NOF £196,962) and a 10% Cultural Services contribution of £19,696). This leaves a balance of £61,040 which will be funded as follows:

	£
<b>Cultural Services 2001/02 Revenue Budget</b>	<b>10,000</b>
<b>IT R &amp; R Fund</b>	<b>15,840</b>
<b>Property R &amp; R Fund</b>	<b>35,200</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>61,040</b>

#### **4. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

There are no Human Rights Implications arising from this report.

#### **5. CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of IT, Director of Property Services and Director of Law and Administration have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

Norman Atkinson  
Acting Director of Cultural Services

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.