

# Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



**Nottingham**  
**City Council**

**Reference Number:**

**3230**

**Author:**

**Anne Clarke**

**Department:**

**Strategy and Resources**

**Contact:**

**Simba Chirara**

**(Job Title: Voice and Data Infrastructure Manager, Email: [simba.chirara@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:simba.chirara@nottinghamcity.gov.uk), Phone: 01158764688)**

**Subject:**

**Alternative data connection technology**

**Total Value:**

**£122,800 (Type: Capital and Revenue)**

**Decision Being Taken:**

- 1) To spend £122,800 to pilot an alternative data connection technology solution to replace the existing P2P dedicated circuits.**
- 2) To authorise the Head of IT to award the contract.**

**Reasons for the Decision(s)** Presently for communication between sites the Council uses P2P dedicated Circuits. Up to date technology now means that there is available a cheaper alternative providing the same bandwidth. We wish to test it before adopting it fully.

The current contract enables us to do this as we have approval to extend the current contract for a further two years after October 2018 when the initial term expires. The contract allows us to reduce the sites connected to Loxley House by 6 sites each year.

It is proposed that for the 2 years (October 2018 - September 2019 and October 2019 - September 2020) we reduce the sites connected under the existing contract by six each year and replace these connections with new technology connections. To facilitate these new connections to all sites, we would need to purchase a 100mb circuit to connect the sites to the Loxley House Data Centre. The cost of the circuit would be funded by the savings generated by the pilot (if successful).

If the pilot is successful then we will go out to tender to replace all the remaining connections.

Attached is a spreadsheet setting out the projected costs of the pilot for 6 sites and the potential savings. We estimate the savings for 6 sites over the three year term (October 2018 - September 2021) to be approx. £10,600. Over the twelve sites we expect the savings to be £21,200, conditional on the proof of concept being successful, and this will be regularly monitored over the period to access viability to continue.

The cost of the proposal will be met from a pre-approved bid to the IT Efficiency Fund.

**Briefing notes documents:** Alternative Data Connection Technology v2.xlsx

**Other Options Considered:** To do nothing - This is not an option as over the years new technology such as FTTC is delivering more bandwidth at reduced costs.

To re tender for the existing system (point to point lease lines) - This solution is rejected because ,currently, without a proof of concept we are not sure whether these new technologies i.e. FTTC, can deliver the data services required by the Council. Further, as the existing contract could end on the 31 October 2018, there would be insufficient time for IT resources to conduct a procurement exercise and move if necessary to a new supplier.

**Background Papers:** None.

**Published Works:** None.

**Affected Wards:** Citywide

<b>Colleague / Councillor Interests:</b>	None.
<b>Consultations:</b>	Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.
<b>Crime and Disorder Implications:</b>	There are no crime and disorder implementations.
<b>Equality:</b>	EIA not required. Reasons: Not required as this is for the purchase of IT hardware.
<b>Any implications affecting IT:</b>	Yes
<b>Decision Type:</b>	Portfolio Holder
<b>Subject to Call In:</b>	Yes
<b>Call In Expiry date:</b>	20/08/2018
<b>Advice Sought:</b>	Legal, Finance, Procurement, IT
<b>Legal Advice:</b>	<p>It is not considered that this procurement will give rise to significant legal concerns. Legal is available to support the procurement process.</p> <p>Advice provided by Brian Lewis Stewart (Solicitor) on 14/06/2018.</p>

**Finance Advice:**

**This decision seeks approval to trial new data connection technology across sites funded from investment from the ITEF.**

**Assuming that the proof of concept is delivered for 3 financial years at each site (2018/19 to 2020/21 for sites 1-6, and 2019/20 to 2021/22 for sites 7-12), the total gross expenditure to be funded from the ITEF is estimated to be £122,800. This investment, if the proof of concept is proven successful, would result in revenue savings of £144,000 due to the elimination of the current annual WAN rentals, delivering an overall net saving of £21,200.**

**As this decision is for a proof of concept, there is a risk that this solution does not result in the savings which are anticipated. In this case, a business decision will need to be made for the ongoing procurement of data connection technology, to ensure that a value for money solution is delivered.**

**It is noted that the IT Strategy Board have earmarked and approved funding for this decision from the ITEF to be incurred over the next 4 financial years. Whilst there is currently sufficient resource within the ITEF to cover this decision, much of this is earmarked for spend during 18/19 and 19/20, and care should be taken not to overcommit to additional projects compromising the delivery of currently approved projects into the longer term. Projects funded from the ITEF are expected to deliver revenue savings, and the outcomes of this project should be monitored to ensure that the anticipated future savings are delivered, assisting the Councils overall financial aim of a balanced MTFP.**

**Advice provided by Paul Frith (Commerical Business Partner) on 19/06/2018.**

**IT Advice:**

**The IT Service supports the proposals made within this delegated decision. The proposal will enable the Service to trial new technologies for Wide Area Network (WAN) connectivity. These technologies will provide more scalable solutions, better suited to the dynamic demands of the Council's services. The flexibility enabled by the approach also offers the opportunity to realise savings by better shaping the supply of WAN services to meet particular sites' demands.**

**Advice provided by Paul J. Burrows (IT Change, Projects & Strategy Manager) on 11/06/2018.**

**Procurement Advice:**

**The department will complete a tender for the pilot. Once this is complete, if the department intend to progress with a long term contract, a tender will be conducted in order to secure best value for the Council and the citizens it represents. On this basis there are no procurement concerns with the approach.**

**Advice provided by Lauren Wheatcroft (Procurement Officer) on 02/07/2018.**

**Signatures**

<b>Toby Neal (Portfolio Holder for Community Protection)</b>
<b>SIGNED and Dated: 10/08/2018</b>
<b>Candida Brudenell (Corporate Director for Strategy and Resources)</b>
<b>SIGNED and Dated: 10/08/2018</b>