

SHADOW EXECUTIVE

16 DECEMBER 2008

SUBJECT	LOCAL AUTHORITY MODERNISATION PROJECT (LAMP) PROJECT FOR CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL (To deliver a unified computer system, underpinned by the Local Land & Property Gazetteer (LLPG) in support of the Development Control, Building Control, Land Charges and Environmental service areas for Central Bedfordshire Council. This encompasses two key components: Acolaid (supplied by Plantech) and Geographical Information System (GIS – supplied by Cadcorp).)
REPORT OF	Director of Sustainable Communities and Director of Corporate Resources
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IMPLICATIONS

SUSTAINABILITY	The proposal provides for an efficient and effective computer system to support the delivery of a range of services within the Sustainable Communities Directorate.
FINANCIAL	The costs of the proposal are set out in detail in the business case. These are partly transitional – resulting from the merger of three authorities systems, and partly offset by savings in existing expenditure. This is a one-off cost of £1,060,000 with on-going savings of at least £323,000 per annum giving a payback in 4 years.
LEGAL	The proposed solution falls within the Local Authority Modernisation Programme (LAMP). This is a government tendered project which is in full compliance with EU procurement regulations. Effectively the project is pre-tendered. The proposed contractor was the winning supplier chosen by the Government to run LAMP.
PERSONNEL/EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES	None as a result of this report
COMMUNITY DEV/SAFETY	None as a result of this report
TRADES UNION	None as a result of this report

HUMAN RIGHTS	None as a result of this report
KEY ISSUE	Yes
BUDGET/POLICY FRAMEWORK	No

OTHER DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO REPORT
Creating Central Bedfordshire Plantech Systems Business case Lamp Spatial Data Briefing Note

RECOMMENDATION(S):	
<p>To accept the proposal set out in the business case to use the LAMP Project, to deliver a unified computer system for Development Control, Building Control, Land Charges and Environmental Service areas for Central Bedfordshire Council, incorporating a Council wide Geographical Information System and Local Land and Property Gazetteer.</p>	
<i>Reason for Recommendation:</i>	<p>To enable Central Bedfordshire Council, residents and businesses, to benefit from a unified computer system delivering harmonised Development Control, Building Control, Land Charges and Environmental services underpinned by a Council wide Geographical Information System and Local Land and Property Gazetteer.</p>

Background

1. The creation of Central Bedfordshire Council will require a number of ICT systems and databases to be amalgamated from the two district councils and Bedfordshire County Council.
2. In particular, the Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) datasets for both district councils, which is used as the basis for all Development Control, Building Control, Land Charges and a number of other services, must be amalgamated.
3. These functions reside in the Plantech systems used by both district councils and which, unfortunately, have been built in very different ways and so amalgamation is not a simple exercise. A considerable amount of work is required to harmonise the data structures, lookup codes, numbering sequences and methods of using the data.
4. This also impacts on the GIS (Geographical Information Systems) that are used to support a number of other services and customer information services. This is used differently between the three authorities and so will require development.

5. Six months intensive work has been undertaken by the ICT project team, supported by user representatives and MDA (MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates Ltd.), to fully understand these complex issues and determine the most appropriate way forward from a range of options as discussed in the business case document, attached at Appendix 1.
6. The e-Government programme that ran from 2000-2005 required all Councils to take part in a number of Government initiatives. These included the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG), Planning and Regulatory Services On-Line (PARSOL) and the National Land Information Service (NLIS). In order to deliver these initiatives and other future improvements a complete technology refresh across major land and property ICT systems including Planning, Building Control, Environmental Services and Land Charges was required. As part of winning the right to run the NLIS service MDA (MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates Ltd) had to develop a service, the Local Authority Modernisation Programme (LAMP) in conjunction with the IDeA that would allow authorities to implement this technology.
7. This project proposes to adopt this service and utilise MDA's considerable expertise to provide a managed service that will considerably reduce the risks in attempting to undertake this amalgamation in house.
8. MDA have already completed a due diligence investigation exercise that has allowed them to present a complete, fixed price, proposal to deliver an integrated Plantech system, and consolidated LLPG, on the new CBC infrastructure.
9. The proposal also includes, as part of the LAMP framework, a Managed Support Service element for a period of 7 years at an annual cost, in that if anything happens to the supplier (Plantech) then MDA adopt full responsibility, and cost, for the provision of a replacement system.

Background Papers: LAMP Project for Central Bedfordshire Council
Business Case

Location of Papers:

File Reference: