

To: POLICY AND RESOURCES (FINANCE & CUSTOMER SERVICES) SUB-COMMITTEE	Subject: EXTENSION OF USE OF CAIRD DATA CENTRE AS ICT DISASTER RECOVERY SITE FOR NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL	
From: HEAD OF E-GOVERNMENT & SERVICE DEVELOPMENT		
Date: 23 October 2014	Ref: IMcK/BT	

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek committee approval to extend the contract for Data Centre rental within Caird Building, South Lanarkshire for a further three years.

2. Background

- 2.1 The current contract for this terminates on the 31th Dec 2014.
- 2.2 In September 2010 Committee approved the funding for the set up of a secondary main data centre environment at Caird, consolidating resilience and disaster recovery services into a single location. This decision recognised the increasing dependence of council services on a reliable ICT capability and the inadequacy of some of the disaster arrangements in place at that time.
- 2.3 Following this decision, various NLC ICT services have been established at Caird from 2011 onwards.

3. Discussion

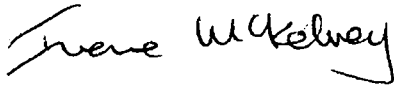
- 3.1 During the following three years, EGASD have transferred a number of systems to this facility, it now hosts all Council User Acceptance, Test, and Failover systems and is the recognised Disaster Recovery site for the majority of Application.
- 3.2 The Council invested a significant sum (£86,000), in the establishment of this secondary Data Centre.
- 3.3 During the operational period the uptime recorded for this facility has been 100% when organised maintenance windows are excluded.
- 3.4 The initial report recognised that the running costs for this facility were a minimum of £15,000p/a less than any other considered option.
- 3.5 Recent works carried out as part of the Transformation Programme to accommodate improvements to delivery and capacity of ICT within High school establishment have augmented the links to Caird and integrated it further into the schools network.
- 3.6 Current projects exist to further enhance the ICT resilience available to the schools network by transitioning resilient and Disaster Recovery services out of the unsuitable Caldervale computer room facility and into Caird, similar to the initial move of similar Corporate ICT services from Kildonan St and Bron Way in 2011.
- 3.7 South Lanarkshire Council (SLC) have indicated that any further extension would be available at similar terms and conditions, with costs to be held at the same rate of

£115,000p/a. subject to inflationary rises. SLC anticipate that a formal offer confirming this will be made available early November.

- 3.8 Given the investment to date in the NLC environment at Caird, the cost and disruption of setting up alternative arrangements for disaster recovery and the fact that the facility has delivered 100% 'uptime' to date, it is recommended that the Council continues to host its disaster recovery services at Caird for the next 3 years.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 It is recommended that committee approves the continuing use of this facility for a further three years, subject to the successful conclusion of review of the formal offer from SLC.



Head of E-Government & Service Development

Members seeking further information on the contents of this report are asked to contact Irene McKelvey, on tel. 01698 302532 or Brian Teaz on 01698 302264