

AGENDA ITEM No. 2(b)(c)

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

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1. Introduction

The Libraries Sub-Group of the Leisure Services Working Group has unanimously recommended that the MDIS Urica library system, which is the current Motherwell District Council system, is the only option that can provide a practical integrated IT solution for North Lanarkshire Council Libraries in the short term and at reasonable cost. This report details the background and recommends action to be taken.

2. Background

There will be 25 public libraries and 5 mobile libraries in North Lanarkshire Council, issuing around 3.372 million items per year etc. Three of the four authorities have a fully integrated library system with the facility to control all library operations such as stock ordering, cataloguing, circulation of stock, public access catalogues and information systems. This is the current method of effectively managing library stocks and information services.

Current Systems

Motherwell	MDIS Urica
Monklands	Bookshelf
Strathkelvin	Dynix
Cumbernauld & Kilsyth	Operates a manual system

Also there are various additional administrative systems including Strathclyde Regional Council School Library Service / Education Resource Service.

It will not be possible to operate the library service on an open basis to all North Lanarkshire residents, until the existing individual systems are integrated and for reasons of scale, cost effectiveness, efficiency and level of public service, it is recommended that the MDIS integrated library system be extended throughout North Lanarkshire Council as soon as possible.

A number of options were considered in conjunction with the IT Officers Working Group (see Appendix I).

3. Compatibility of Existing Systems

Initial investigations of the existing systems are continuing in relation to compatibility towards integration. Obviously more detailed work requires to be undertaken, but the initial view is that the existing hardware is compatible, and the software can be appropriately adjusted. However, a larger processor would be required to support the increased number of libraries.

4. Communication Links

It is assumed that the library network, with the possible exception of local library connections in Cumbernauld & Kilsyth District Council, will "piggy-back" on the proposed wide area network for North Lanarkshire Council.

5. The Implications for Individual Authorities

The general position at present is summarised in Appendix II.

5.1 Disaggregation of Strathkelvin District Council System : 3 Libraries and 1 Mobile

This is the crucial area for action as an immediate "bolt on" to an existing system will be required for 1 April. The only alternative, is that East Dunbartonshire continues to operate these libraries on an agency basis, and this is not recommended.

5.2 Cumbernauld & Kilsyth District Councils Integration: 6 libraries and 1 mobile

Cumbernauld & Kilsyth District Council library system is one of only five in Scotland which is still operating on a manual basis.

It is seen as an early priority that this service be brought up to the same standard as the other authorities for good management practice and particularly in relation to an early equalisation of services to the public.

There are no technical complications in relation to merging of systems, however, the computerisation process will require to be undertaken mainly from the beginning, although much of this will be fairly straightforward.

Appropriate system hardware will require to be obtained and an initial calculation is based on 20 terminals / PCs. This will require a detailed analysis.

However there may be some spare MDIS equipment currently available in Motherwell District which can be reallocated and this is awaiting confirmation.

5.3 Monklands District Council: 6 libraries and 2 mobiles

The merging of the Monklands system would have the least urgency although it could be a parallel activity depending upon bar code compatibilities.

5.4 Motherwell District Council: 10 libraries and 2 mobiles

There would be no change.

6. Cost Summary

6.1 STRATHKELVIN TRANSFER

File transfer (One off cost if MDIS unable to transfer)	:	up to £10,000 (if required)
Upgrade user license (not required if larger processor available)	:	£1,500 per annum (if required)

6.2 EXTENDED INTEGRATED SYSTEM

6.2.1 Annual MDIS Lease Costs
(October 1995 for 42 months)

Processor	:	£24,108
Software	: Year 1 only	: £15,495
	: Year 2 etc.	: £3,600

6.2.2 File Transfer Costs : Monklands

(One off cost if MDIS unable to transfer)	:	£1,500	(if required)
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6.2.3 Additional Equipment : Cumbernauld & Kilsyth District Council

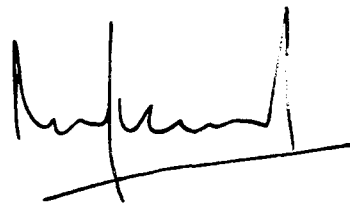
Network Costs (Modem Links)			
One off	:	£5,520	+ any HQ links
per annum	:	£720	
Hardware			
lease &			
maintenance	: per annum	: £26,000	
Cabling costs	:	TBC	

N.B. All costs are indicative and will require confirmation.

7. Recommendation

It is recommended:-

- 7.1 that the principle of a North Lanarkshire Council integrated system as an early priority be accepted.
- 7.2 that the MDIS Urica system should be extended as the North Lanarkshire Council system in the first instance.
- 7.3 that arrangements be put in place to ensure the transfer of Strathkelvin libraries for 1 April 1996.
- 7.4 that subject to confirmation by the Director of Finance regarding technical, cost, installation and timescale details the following is proceeded with as soon as practicable with a completion target of 1996 / 97 or before:
 - (a) computerise the Cumbernauld & Kilsyth District Council manual system
 - (b) transfer the Monklands District Council system to MDIS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. [unclear]', written over a horizontal line.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

OFFICERS WORKING GROUP (I.T.)

OPTIONS FOR LIBRARY SERVICES

1. CURRENT COSTS

Monklands

Hardware and Software Lease (48 Months)	(Bull, Unix, Bookshelf)	£ 26,095/annum
Hardware Maintenance		£ 15,187/annum
Software Maintenance		£ 6,981/annum
Total		£ 48,263/annum

Motherwell

Hardware Lease (50 Months)	(MDIS Series X, Reality X, URICA)	£ 62,400/annum
Software Licence		£ 14,220/annum
Total		£ 76,620/annum

2. OPTIONS FOR NORTH LANARKSHIRE

A. Partial Expansion to Monkland's System to include Strathkelvin

User Licence Upgrade (Bookshelf)	£ 5,600
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B. Partial Expansion to Motherwell's System to include Strathkelvin

User Licence Upgrade (URICA)	£ 1,500/annum
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C. Monkland's Replacement System for North Lanarkshire

	Year 1	Year 2+
Hardware and System Software (Motorola, Unix, Genesis)	£130,000	£10,572
RDBMS	£ 70,000	£10,042
Genesis	£ 50,000	£ 9,630
Conversion and Training	£ 13,000	
Total	£263,000	£30,244

D. Motherwell's Replacement System for North Lanarkshire

	Year 1	Year 2+
Hardware and System Software (MDIS, Unix)	£117,500	£15,372
Software (URICA)	£ 12,600	£ 3,600
Conversion and Training	£ 13,000	
Total	£143,100	£18,972

E. Upgrading Monkland's Current Hardware to provide North Lanarkshire Solution based on Bookshelf

	Year 1	Year 2+
Hardware Upgrade (DPX2/380, Universe, Bookshelf)	£ 44,983	£ 6,996
Universe Software Upgrade	£ 46,400	£ 9,216
Total	£ 91,383	£16,212

F. Upgrading Motherwell's Current Hardware to provide North Lanarkshire Solution based on URICA

	Year 1	Year 2+
Hardware Upgrade (MDIS, Unix)	£ 45,000	£10,000
Software (URICA)	£ 12,600	£ 3,600
Total	£ 57,600	£13,600

Note

The costs outlined above exclude communications equipment or lines and also assumes retention of existing peripherals. In addition, no account has been taken of the required IT support services.

20/03/95

SUMMARY

Appendix II

	STRATHKELVIN	CUMBERNAULD & KILSYTH	MONKLANDS	MOTHERWELL
Hardware 1999	Purchased	-	75% leased to 1998 25% purchased	Leased to February
Files : Reader Catalogue	MDIS transfer	MDIS create	MDIS transfer	N/A
Stock labelling	N/A	In-house	N/A	N/A
Comms : Local Inter-library	Yes	No	Yes	N/A
Timescale	3 months	14 months	3 months	N/A

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