

**North York Moors National Park Authority**  
**Finance, Risk, Audit and Standards Committee**

**12 August 2013**

**Information Communications Technology Update**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To update Members on work currently being carried out to support and develop the Authority's Information Communications Technology.

**2. Desktop Hardware Refresh**

- 2.1 As stated at a previous FRASC meeting in November, we have been looking at refreshing our desktop and laptop estate. The procurement for the replacements has been undertaken utilising the framework arrangements offered through the Government Procurement Service (GPS) which means that the prices have already been negotiated at a national level.
- 2.2 An exercise to compare the prices between the offerings on the GPS frameworks and what we could get if we went direct to a vendor was carried out. The saving was in the region of £25 per desktop which adds up to quite a saving when procuring over 100 machines.
- 2.3 This saving also doesn't take into account the amount of time IT have saved by not having to right tender documents, deal with additional questions around the tender and assess the tenders received.

**3. Buildings at Risk Survey Mobile Application**

- 3.1 In March 2013 a grant from English Heritage was secured to conduct Buildings at Risk surveys. The decision was made to carry out these surveys using a mobile application.
- 3.2 The timescales to get an application developed and tested in time to meet the EH deadlines were very tight but the IT team and the company developing the application worked closely together and the application was delivered in early July.
- 3.3 There are eight volunteers now using the application on 7" tablet devices, and they are looking to survey approximately 700 buildings throughout July.

**4. Portal Meeting**

- 4.1 The annual portal meeting was hosted by the Peak District National Park Authority. This was a chance for IT Managers and Web Officers from the National Park family to come together to discuss web related topics and set out a road map for the portal.
- 4.2 It was a very productive two days and a lot of useful information was shared. It was also the first opportunity to meet Tom Chadwin in his new role as maternity cover for the Portal Manager.

4.3 In the roadmap it was established that as a group we need to look at how we all work together and how we can promote the cross working that is done between the Parks and the benefits we get from using the shared services.

5. **Network Connectivity**

5.1 Between now and April 2014 NYNET, our network provider, are completely replacing the network infrastructure. This will move our network onto the latest technologies.

5.2 As part of this we are renegotiating our contract with them. After initial discussions about our requirements going forward there should be a saving of around 40% on what we currently pay due to them aligning their pricing structure to align with the YHPSN agreement with Virgin Media.

5.3 The refresh in technology should also mean that we have a 150% (from 4Mb to 10Mb) increase in our internet bandwidth.

6. **Legal Implications**

6.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

7. **Recommendation**

7.1 That the work being carried out to support and develop the Authority's ICT be noted.

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