

CABINET

23 JUNE 2008

REPLACEMENT OF STANDBY GENERATOR AT NEW WALK CENTRE

Report of the Interim Corporate Director of Resources

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to the purchase of a replacement standby generator to serve New Walk Centre.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The existing standby generator that services New Walk Centre is 30 years old. Following routine testing, it was found that the generator failed and despite emergency repairs, it is necessary to replace the generator as a priority item.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 Cabinet is recommended to approve the purchase of a replacement emergency generator to be funded within the Centrally Located Administrative Buildings (CLABs) financing budget.

4. Report

Existing Situation with the Standby Generator

- 4.1 The standby generator that is in place is 30 years old. 6-8 weeks ago the standby generator was put to a regular routine 'test' which it unfortunately failed. Emergency repairs were undertaken, however it failed again. A replacement standby generator was hired and connected to the main panel. This was tested and also failed. Two causes of this failure were identified: firstly the 30 year electrical panel had a connector that failed and secondly, the cables to the panel were incorrectly positioned. The 'hired' standby generator is now working and the panel temporarily repaired.

- 4.2 At its meeting on 3rd March 2008, Cabinet approved expenditure of £500,000 from the CLABs budget for works to the Data Centre on B3 to ensure business continuity of this critical service. The failing of the standby generator have been uncovered as part of this work.

Proposal for the Standby Generator

- 4.3 An options appraisal was undertaken by Leicester City Council services engineers. The repair option was eliminated due to the age of the generator. The conclusion was reached that replacement is more cost effective than continuing to hire a generator over the long term.
- 4.4 The estimated cost of a replacement generator and its installation is £185,000 including fees. The need to purchase a permanent replacement generator is of particular priority due to works which are taking place in the Data Centre in B Block during the weekend of 12th -13th July 2008. After this weekend there will be an increase in electrical load as the new air conditioning equipment is brought on line hence the need to have a larger sized capacity standby generator to cope with the additional load in the event of a power failure. A larger capacity temporary generator will be hired whilst the permanent generator is ordered and delivered which could take 30 weeks.

5. Financial and Legal Implications

Financial Implications – Nick Booth, Extn. 297460

- 5.1 The estimated cost of a replacement emergency generator is £185,000 including fees. This can be funded from within the financing budget for the CLAB's review in the current financial year.
- 5.2 Legal Implications - Joanna Bunting, Extn. 296450

None.

6. Other Implications

Other implications	Yes/No	Paragraph referred
Equal Opportunities	No	-
Sustainable & Environmental	No	-
Crime & Disorder	No	-
Human Rights Act	No	-
Elderly/People on low income	No	-

7. Risk Assessment Matrix

Risk	Likelihood L/M/H	Severity Impact L/M/H	Control Actions (if necessary/appropri ate)
1. Failure of the standby generator will have serious business continuity issues for the critical Data Room Service.	M	H	A full risk management workshop is to be held to provide an action plan to provide business continuity through the Data Room and allied works.

8. Background Papers – Local Government Act 1972

None.

9. Consultations

The Chief Finance Officer (Mark Noble), Service Director Information and Head of Legal Services (Joanna Bunting) have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

10. Report Author

David Lockhart
Property Services Projects
Extn. 29 8162
Email: david.lockhart@leicester.gov.uk

Martin Male
Interim Corporate Director of Resources

Key Decision	No
Reason	N/A
Appeared in Forward Plan	N/A
Executive or Council Decision	Executive (Cabinet)