

ST ALBANS CITY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION REGISTER

Portfolio(s) decision relates to:									i) Information and Communication and ii) Legal and Democratic Services			Name of Portfolio Holder:			i) Cllr Daly ii) Cllr Gordon		
Name of decision maker:				Mike Lovelady, Returning Officer				Signature of decision maker:									
Name of relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee:				Corporate Services				Date of decision:				11 February 2003					
Type of decision (<i>please tick</i>)		Key	✓	Significant			Virement			Other		Urgent					
Scheme of delegation reference under which decision is taken:				Delegated decision by Cabinet 4 February 2003 (Attached)													
Has this decision drawn upon confidential information? (<i>If yes – please set out what confidential information has been taken into account on a separate sheet</i>)						No											
<p>DECISION (<i>Note this should be written in the style of a committee minute and should not include confidential information</i>):</p> <p>As the council’s Returning Officer, I have decided that the council will proceed with its Electronic Voting pilot for 2003 May elections. The council will proceed with the BT/Unisys consortium as its preferred supplier.</p> <p>In arriving at my decision I have properly and thoroughly taken into account the legal, financial and workforce implications for the Council. My decision is within the Council’s policy and budget framework and complies with the regulations and procedures set out in the Constitution. I have explicitly considered the Council’s corporate objectives in arriving at my decision. In coming to my decision I have consulted with all relevant parties as appropriate and in accordance with the scheme of delegation.</p>																	

REASON/S FOR THE DECISION

The basis for this decision is that the benefits to the council of participating in the 2003 May e-voting pilots outweigh the risks. The risks and benefits were set out in an email to consultees (appended here). I am satisfied that the contractor has the resources and skills to implement the e-voting project on time and that the council can manage the project internally satisfactorily.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:**REASONS FOR REJECTING THESE OPTIONS**

1. Not continuing with e-voting – reverting to paper

It brings no extra value or benefits to the council

2. Appointing a new consortium to supply e-voting services

This would take too much time to implement effectively

CONSULTEES

In making this decision, I have consulted the following people:

Name and Signature	Position	Date of consultation	Outcome of consultation (may cross reference to supplementary/background sheets)
Cllr Daly	Portfolio Holder, Information and Communication and Conservative Group Leader, Chair of Cabinet	10/2/03 and 11/2/03	Approval to go ahead (see email attached here)
Cllr Gordon	Portfolio Holder, Legal and Democratic Services	10/2/03 and 11/2/03	Approval to go ahead (see separate Fax)
Cllr MacMillan / Cllr Pakenham	Group Leader and Deputy Group Leader, Labour	10/2/03 and 11/2/03	Approval to go ahead (see email attached here)
Cllr Peyton	Group Leader, Liberal Democrats	10/2/03 and 11/2/03	Approval to go ahead (see email attached here)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985

Bibliography	Custodian	File location
1. Email from Returning officer to group leaders/portfolio holders	H Abraham	Policy Unit, Civic Centre, 01727-819552
2. Email proposal from contractors to group leaders/portfolio holders	H Abraham	Policy Unit, Civic Centre, 01727-819552
3. Email confirmation of pilot partner selection from ODPM to St Albans Council	H Abraham	Policy Unit, Civic Centre, 01727-819552

MINUTES OF MEETING NO.9 OF THE CABINET

held in the Council Chamber, District Council Offices, Civic Centre, St Peter's Street, St Albans on Tuesday 4 February 2003 at 7.00pm.

Present:

Councillors Daly - Information and Communication Portfolio Holder (Chairman);
Donald - Environment and Health Portfolio Holder;
Gordon - Legal and Democratic Services Portfolio Holder;
MacMillan – Transport, Development and Enterprise Portfolio Holder;
Mrs Mills - Housing Portfolio Holder;
Newman - Leisure and Arts Portfolio Holder;
Oxley – Resources Portfolio Holder;
Peyton - Community Leadership Portfolio Holder;
Whiteside - Planning and Conservation Portfolio Holder.

CABINET DECISION

- (i) That St Albans City and District Council proceed with discussions with the 2003 E-Democracy Pilot.
- (ii) That a final decision on whether to go ahead be taken by the Returning Officer on Tuesday 11 February 2003, in consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Information and Communication and Legal and Democratic Services and Group Leaders and, if possible, in discussion with members of the E-Voting Working Party.

Email confirmations from Group Leaders:

----- Original Message -----

From: "Brian Peyton" <brian.peyton@ntlworld.com>

To: "Julian Daly" <Julian.Daly@closeinvestments.com>; <Mmacmillcuk@aol.com>;
<cldr.e.gordon@stalbans.gov.uk>; <h.abraham@stalbans.gov.uk>

Cc: <malachy.pakenham@ntlworld.com>; <cldr.k.stammers@stalbans.gov.uk>;

<cldr.m.pakenham@stalbans.gov.uk>; <m.lovelady@stalbans.gov.uk>; <m.lowe@stalbans.gov.uk>;

<p.adley@stalbans.gov.uk>; <p.lerner@stalbans.gov.uk>

Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2003 4:13 PM

Subject: Re: Urgent: St Albans evoting pilot decision

➤ Mike,

> > You have my approval to proceed. Thank you for all your work on this and that of the team.

>

> Regards

>

> Brian

>

----- Original Message -----

From: "Julian Daly" <Julian.Daly@closeinvestments.com>

To: <Mmacmillcuk@aol.com>; <brian.peyton@ntlworld.com>; <cldr.e.gordon@stalbans.gov.uk>;
<h.abraham@stalbans.gov.uk>

Cc: <malachy.pakenham@ntlworld.com>; <cldr.k.stammers@stalbans.gov.uk>;

<cldr.m.pakenham@stalbans.gov.uk>; <m.lovelady@stalbans.gov.uk>; <m.lowe@stalbans.gov.uk>;

<p.adley@stalbans.gov.uk>; <p.lerner@stalbans.gov.uk>

Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2003 3:14 PM

Subject: Re: Urgent: St Albans evoting pilot decision

Mike

Thank you.

You have my support to proceed.

Regards

Julian

----- Original Message -----

From: <Malachy.Pakenham@cps.gsi.gov.uk>

To: <h.abraham@stalbans.gov.uk>

Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2003 4:27 PM

Subject: E VOTING.

> Following our conversation at 16.20 hours and listening to your two phone messages, I am content as deputy leader of the labour group to agree the E-voting pilot schemes.

> I understand that both malcolm and dreda are not contactable but are in agreement to pilot the scheme as well.

> I concur with their views.

>

> I hope this assists.

>

> Malachy Pakenham

> Ashley Ward, and Deputy Group Leader- Labour.

----- Original Message ----- **From:** [Janice Crombie](#)

To: [Cllr Dreda Gordon](#) ; [Cllr Julian Daly \(H\)](#) ; [Cllr Julian Daly \(B\)](#) ; [Helen Abraham Cp PI Mgr](#)

Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2003 11:25 AM

Subject: A message from Cllr MacMillan

A short message from Cllr Malcolm MacMillan:

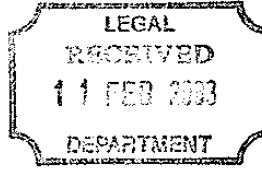
"I support the e-voting proposal if both Portfolio Holders agree. I cannot contact Councillor Daly at his office or on his mobile".

Janice

(Member services)

Dictated to Members Services 11/2/03

Mike Lovelady Tuesday 11 February 2003
Returning Officer
St Albans City and District Council
St Peter's Street
St Albans
AL1 3JE
Tel: 01727-819547



I confirm my approval for SADC to proceed with electronic voting pilot for May 2003 with Unisys/BT consortium as our preferred partner.

E. M. Gordon

CCr. Gordon
Portfolio Holder Legal/Democratic Services