REPORT TO: **Policy and Resources Committee - 18 March 2002**
                              Education Committee   - 18 March 2002

REPORT ON: **Supply of I.T. Equipment – GCAT**

REPORT BY: **Head of Information Technology**

REPORT NO: **181-2002**

1.0   PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1   To seek Committee approval for acceptance of the recommended GCAT procurement scheme for the supply of I.T. Products to Dundee City Council.

2.0   RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1   The Committee is recommended to :

    i)   approve acceptance of the GCAT Procurement scheme from 1 April 2002 until 30 September 2002.

    ii)   approve ongoing engineering maintenance costs for all ongoing purchases.

    iii)   note that purchases will require to be reported to committee on a monthly basis.

3.0   FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1   All expenditure relating to this contract will be funded through a five-year operating lease. Provision for this expenditure will be made in the approved I.T. Division 2002/2003 Revenue Budget and the approved Education Department 2002/2003 Revenue Budget.

3.2   The annual recurring engineering maintenance costs will be met from the 2002/2003 Revenue expenditure for the I.T. Division.

4.0   LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1   For the operation and maintenance of a wide range of I.T. equipment and support systems, consideration will be given in support of all service developments in line with the requirements of Local Agenda 21.

5.0   EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1   During the implementation of I.T. equipment and services, ongoing consideration will be given to the Council's Equal Opportunities Policies in the preparation of any resultant new Divisional practices affecting I.T. staff duties and opportunities.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 Government catalogue (GCAT) is a catalogue based procurement scheme originally established in 1996 by the Central Computer and Telecommunications Agency (CCTA). It is designed to provide public sector organisations with a simplified means of procuring, and contracting for a wide range of I.T products and related services. The original GCAT Framework expired in September 2001 and it was re-completed in order to ensure continuity of services to customers.

6.2 OGC buying solutions (a new trading arm within the Office of Government Commerce) in collaboration with the NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency (PASA) has established revised GCAT arrangements that enable Customers to place orders for I.T. products and related services online. OGC buying solutions has signed 26 Framework Agreements with the contractors listed in Appendix 1 .

6.3 Under the umbrella of these Framework Agreements, any UK contracting authority in the public and utilities sectors (as defined in Directives 93/36/EC and 93/38/EC) is entitled to enter into an agreement known as a Customer Access Agreement. There is no joining fee and no commitment to use the scheme exclusively or at all. There is no limit on the value or number of orders that can be placed through the scheme as GCAT contracts were awarded in accordance with the EC Procurement Directives.

6.4 Benefits of GCAT include, compliance with EC Procurement legislation, ability to call off urgent requirements quickly, E Commerce facilities, ease of ordering, wide range of products and services, and competitive prices.

7.0 PROPOSAL

7.1 The GCAT scheme is recommended for approval and is considered to be the most advantageous and cost effective in terms of supply of I.T. products.

7.2 Notification of all I.T. products purchased through the scheme will be reported to the Policy and Resources Committee on a monthly basis.

8.0 CONSULTATION

8.1 The Chief Executive and Director of Finance have been fully consulted in the preparation of this report and are in full agreement with its proposals.

NOTE

No background papers as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report).

Head of Information Technology   ……………………………   Date   …………………….

APPENDIX 1

GCAT Suppliers and their associated categories

Hardware
- Bull Information Systems Ltd
- Centerprise International Limited
- Compaq Computer Ltd
- Dell Computer Corporation Ltd
- Elonex Plc
- Ergo Computing UK Ltd
- IBM United Kingdom Limited
- Siemens
- Tiny Computers
- Unisys Limited
- Viglen Ltd

Telecom
- BT Retail
- Siemens

Software
- Bull Information Systems Ltd
- IBM United Kingdom Limited
- IMS Maxims Plc
- Northgate Information Solutions UK Ltd
- Sanderson MSL Ltd
- SBL (Software Box Ltd)
- Siemens
- Trustmarque Solutions
- UNISYS Limited

Maintenance
- Compaq Computer Ltd
- Elonex Plc
- International Computers Ltd (ICL)
- Nextra Ltd
- SCC
- Viglen Ltd

IT Managed Services
- BT Retail
- Bull Information Systems Ltd
- Compaq Computer Ltd
- Computer Science Corporation
- EDS
- Elonex Plc
- International Computers Ltd (ICL)

- SCC
- Siemens
- UNISYS Limited
- Viglen Ltd

APPENDIX 1

Value Added Reseller
- Computacenter (UK) Ltd
- PC World Business Direct
- SCC

Solution Provision
- Bull Information Systems Ltd
- Compaq Computer Ltd
- Computacenter (UK) Ltd
- EDS
- International Computers Ltd (ICL)
- SCC