

# Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council



## e-Enabling Local Government

Trafford Council provides services for some 211,000 residents and visitors to the borough comprising a mixture of inner-city, suburban and rural communities.

Home to the world-famous Manchester United Football Club, the area has also seen significant developments in retail, cultural and housing schemes in recent years. Including the Trafford Centre and Trafford Park Industrial Estate.

### The Business Issue

Like many local authorities, Trafford had been tasked by Government mandate to deliver all council services electronically by 2005.

In addition, initiatives such as the National Grid for Learning (NGFL) and several local projects required them to review the suitability of their present IT infrastructure.

Trafford were seeking a partner that would help them to develop and implement an overall IT development strategy and network solution.

### Our Approach

a&o systems undertook a design study prior to developing a strategy for delivering maximum investment protection by allowing scalability for future sites and a high degree of security.

At the core of this strategy was an upgrade to the data network to link both the core council buildings, plus remote locations such as schools and libraries.

A remote access solution was also implemented in order to permit council members to access corporate applications such as email and mainframe systems.

The delivered solution was based on providing a high-speed link between each of the 6 core sites using 155Mbps microwave technology.

Secondary locations are connected to the core sites by a mixture of links including leased lines, ISDN and SDSL. The chosen technology for the LAN at each site is based on Gigabit Ethernet for the backbone and switched 10/100Mbps to the desktop.

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## Key Benefits

### Building the Intelligent Network Foundation:

The full realisation of the e-Government initiative can only be achieved by a council that is able to deliver information and systems seamlessly across the whole organisation as well as the wider community. In the case of Trafford, this necessitated the creation of a single network connecting some 82 remote council buildings and 100 secondary and primary schools.

### Increased Speed & Availability:

A particular feature of the proposed design was the adoption of high-speed microwave technology. Boasting significantly reduced on-going costs over conventional leased lines, this solution also suited the close proximity of the core council sites. Further use of broadband xDSL circuits for the remote offices also allowed high bandwidth services to be provided at a minimal cost. Using advanced resiliency features to maximise availability, the network also support Quality of Service (QoS) to reliably support voice and multi-media services.

### Tailored Ongoing Service:

a&o systems provides on-going services to Trafford, tailored to their exact requirements. Two full-time consultants assist with the development of future IT strategy, designed around the specific needs of the council. This directly supports the council in delivery of best value IT solutions.

*"The implementation of our new network infrastructure underpins all of our e-government and modernisation strategies."*

## Solutions Implemented

 Dynamic Services

 Network Optimisation

 Workspace Productivity



To find out how we could help your business achieve significant efficiencies contact us today.

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