

News Release

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Dumfries and Galloway Council chooses Forth Valley GIS for major contract

Dumfries and Galloway Council are pleased to announce the award of a strategic contract for geographic information services to Forth Valley GIS Ltd.

The Council has recently developed a comprehensive three-year corporate GIS strategy targeted at ensuring staff, customers, members and partners can access and use geographic information in an efficient, integrated manner to improve the planning and delivery of shared services within and beyond the organisation.

Over the next three years, the Council will establish a corporate geographic framework with an emphasis on robust information management and the effective use of technologies to underpin the widespread use of geographic information to support policy, planning and decision-making at operational and strategic levels.

The move to corporate GIS, will give all 8,000 staff and 47 Councillors access to centrally held, up to date information essential to delivering a wide range of services across the Council. Development of new business applications is also planned for many service areas

and GIS will be integrated with a range of key business systems including planning, works management, asset management and fleet services.

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Peter Bulmer, Director of Planning & Environment Services, said: "The Council recognises the strategic importance of geographic information to delivering more efficient and improved public services. The potential for GIS is significant and this investment will closely align with wider government initiatives to improving the efficiency, quality and accountability of public services as well as with our key Corporate Plan themes and delivering more customer-focused, online services. We are looking forward to working in close partnership with Forth Valley GIS."

Forth Valley GIS Ltd is a recently established local authority company, founded by Clackmannanshire, Falkirk and Stirling Councils. Over the last 11 years the business partnership has established a widespread reputation for delivering high quality, effective GIS services and solutions to a wide range of Councils and other public organisations across Scotland. The recent move to a local authority company is a strong testament to the importance of shared GIS services and provides new opportunities to widen the shareholding and economies of scale to other public organisations.

Alan Moore, Head of Forth Valley GIS, said: "We are delighted that Dumfries and Galloway Council have selected us to deliver their corporate GIS services. We have an established track record of success with many Scottish local authorities and Dumfries and Galloway will benefit significantly from this experience and from the related efficiencies in sharing proven GIS services and solutions."

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