

10th June 2004

Lloyds TSB - Group IT

Voice & Data Services To Be Outsourced to IBM

In April I wrote to members to tell them that the Bank was looking at how it sources its voice and data network services. These services are currently provided by third-party suppliers and in-house staff. Group IT have been investigating whether they could provide at least the same levels of service more flexibly elsewhere.

According to Group IT the aim of this restructure is to replace the existing multiple voice and data network with a single, transformed voice and data network infrastructure. Group IT has selected IBM to be the preferred supplier. IBM and Group IT are currently involved in negotiations and a final due diligence phase before the final contract is signed. Group IT has said that it believes approximately 80 staff, who have some involvement in supporting the existing voice and data networks, will be affected and their contracts will be transferred to IBM under the Transfer of Undertaking (Protection of Employment) regulations (TUPE). The breakdown of staff affected is as follows:

Monument - 2	Brotherton - 9	Essex House - 2
QRQ Brighton - 1	Orchard Brae - 1	Southgate Centre - 1
Park Street - 1	Hays Lane - 1	Castlemead - 1
Lavington Street - 40	C&G Barnwood - 17	

What Next?

LTU will shortly begin detailed discussions with the Bank and IBM on the outsourcing arrangements and transfer terms. Only once the Bank and IBM have shared details of its future plans for the transferred staff, will proper negotiations on the transfer terms commence. The transfer date is the 1st October.

Staff must remember that there is a legal obligation on the Bank to ensure LTU is provided with full details on future plans, details of the implications of the transfer for staff and, more importantly, it must consult fully with LTU on the transfer terms "with a view to reaching agreement".

To ensure staff are represented fully during negotiations, the Union will be seeking two members from the areas affected to act as representatives on behalf of staff. This will ensure their needs and concerns are properly represented. Members interested should contact Mark.Brown@ltu.co.uk.

Mark V Brown
Assistant General Secretary