

## BUCS Update

Since the update tabled at the last meeting of the SUS Executive in late August, some progress has been made towards the finalising of a partnership agreement with BUCS.

Thoughts have been shared with senior BUCS representatives both in writing and also in person, with Jacqui and Fil taking the opportunity to discuss proposals during a recent trip to London for the BUCS Parliamentary Launch. This resulted in the signing of the agreement for 2008-09,

As a result of these discussions it is clear that BUCS will offer SUS a set fee of £20k for the current operating year based around a set of operating assumptions and a shared service level agreement.

This arrangement is for one year only and is designed to provide short term financial security to SUS until such time as the longer term strategy is adopted. It also fits in with budgeting assumptions made by BUCS earlier this year.

It is expected that further discussions will take place during 08-09, with a view to a more permanent arrangement coming into force for 09-10 and beyond.

This more permanent arrangement will have at its heart an acknowledgement and itemisation of the value of services currently provided by both organisations. That level of detail has not been pursued within this interim arrangement for the sake of expediency and in line with what is realistically possible within the BUCS finances at this time.

The SUS officers are happy with the content of the agreement and confident that this neither compromises current delivery nor provides any excessive new demands on staff time or programme resources.

### SUS Executive is asked to:

Item
o Make comment on the above