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BBC NEWS

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Lloyds TSB takes forward Dumfries and Galloway data bid

Lloyds TSB has confirmed it intends to take forward proposals for a £200m data centre in Dumfriesshire.

It will hold two public information sessions this week to outline its plans for farmland near Ecclefechan.

The site was promoted by Internet Villages International, which secured outline planning permission in 2010.

It has been estimated that 600 jobs could be created during construction and another 50 once the data centre is operational.

Data centres, also known as data farms, are used to house banks of computer servers to remotely store large amounts of information.

If given the go-ahead, the Lloyds TSB project would create one of the largest facilities of its kind in Europe.

The banking group has indicated its intention to submit a formal planning application to Dumfries and Galloway Council in March.