# Managing Network Bandwidth

This playbook provides a guide on how to monitor network usage, adjust Quality of Service (QoS) settings for traffic prioritization, and ensure fair distribution of bandwidth across a network.

### Step 1: Assess Needs

Evaluate the network requirements and the importance of various types of traffic. Identify which applications are critical to operations and might require higher priority.

### Step 2: Monitor Usage

Use network monitoring tools to track usage patterns and identify high-bandwidth applications or devices.

### Step 3: Implement QoS

Configure Quality of Service settings in your router or network management tools to prioritize essential traffic types. This can help maintain performance during peak usage times.

### Step 4: Adjust Policies

Regularly review and adjust QoS policies based on changing network conditions or business requirements.

### Step 5: Communicate Changes

Inform users of any key changes to network management policies, especially if these will affect their bandwidth or usage.

### Step 6: Continuous Monitoring

Keep an ongoing check on the network performance and make adjustments as necessary to maintain a balance between different types of network traffic.

## General Notes

### Tools Selection

Choose network monitoring and QoS tools that are compatible with your existing infrastructure and meet your specific needs.

### Training

Ensure that staff responsible for managing the network are trained to use the selected monitoring and management tools effectively.

### Policy Updates

Update acceptable use policies to reflect any changes in network management strategies and communicate the policies to all network users.