



# **Procurement and Contract Standing Orders**

**(including additional guidance on the  
appointment of consultants)**

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## Procurement and Contract Standing Orders

These Procurement and Contract Standing Orders of Scottish Borders Council (“the Council”) apply from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023 and apply (with certain exceptions) to all contracts made by or on behalf of the Council for the procurement of the execution of works, the supply of goods and materials to the Council, and/or for the provision of services.

### 1. Preliminary

#### 1.1 Extent and interpretation

- 1.1.1 The Council makes these Standing Orders in terms of section 81 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.
- 1.1.2 These Standing Orders must be interpreted in accordance with the key principles of transparency, equal treatment, non-discrimination and proportionality.
- 1.1.3 These Standing Orders apply from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023 and apply, subject to the provisions of Standing Order 1.1.5, to all contracts made by or on behalf of the Council for the procurement of the execution of works, the supply of goods and materials to the Council, and/or for the provision of services (including consultancy services).
- 1.1.4 The Standing Orders are subject to the provisions of Scottish and/or United Kingdom Legislation (the “Appropriate Legislation”). They are also subject to any UK or Scottish Government guidance on public procurement that may be issued from time to time.
- 1.1.5 The Standing Orders do not apply to any of the following:
  - 1.1.5.1 Contracts of employment;
  - 1.1.5.2 Contracts solely relating to the lease or disposal of heritable property;
  - 1.1.5.3 The allocation of direct payments or personal budgets under options 1, 2 or 4 of the Social Care (Self Directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 and
  - 1.1.5.4 Circumstances in which a waiver of the Standing Orders has been granted in accordance with Standing Order 9.
- 1.1.6 The Standing Orders must be read in conjunction with (and all Council staff must comply with) the Scheme of Delegation, the Council’s Financial Regulations and Purchasing Guidelines. Where there is any discrepancy, the Standing Orders shall take precedence.
- 1.1.7 Failure to comply with these Standing Orders when making purchases or seeking offers may result in disciplinary action.
- 1.1.8 Any query regarding the application or interpretation of these Standing Orders should be made in the first instance to the Corporate Procurement Service.

## 1.2. Definitions and interpretation

- 1.2.1 “Act” means the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014;
- 1.2.2 “Best Value” means the legal duty to secure continuous improvement in the performance of the Council’s functions as set out in section 1 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 as follows:-
- “1 Local authorities' duty to secure best value**
- (1) It is the duty of a local authority to make arrangements which secure best value.
- (2) Best value is continuous improvement in the performance of the authority's functions.
- (3) In securing best value, the local authority shall maintain an appropriate balance among—
- (a) The quality of its performance of its functions;
- (b) The cost to the authority of that performance; and
- (c) The cost to persons of any service provided by it for them on a wholly or partly rechargeable basis.
- (4) In maintaining that balance, the local authority shall have regard to—
- (a) Efficiency;
- (b) Effectiveness;
- (c) Economy; and
- (d) The need to meet the equal opportunity requirements.
- (5) The local authority shall discharge its duties under this section in a way which contributes to the achievement of sustainable development.
- (6) In this section, “equal opportunity requirements” has the same meaning as in Section L2 of Part II of Schedule 5 to the Scotland Act 1998 (c.46)”;
- 1.2.3 “Contract Owner” means the Council officer with ultimate responsibility for a specific contract;
- 1.2.4 “Contract Manager” means the Council officer with management responsibility for a specific contract. This means the responsibility for dealing with supplier performance and contractual matters on a day to day basis;
- 1.2.5 “Contract Management Manual” means the contract management handbook issued by the Director of Finance and Procurement, setting out the detailed requirements for the conduct of contract and supplier management activity within the Council (as amended from time to time);
- 1.2.6 “Co-production” means the real and meaningful involvement of the community of the Scottish Borders in how and what community services and related goods and works are delivered with regard to the National Standards for Community Engagement;

- 1.2.7 “Nominated Officer” means a Council Officer that has been formally nominated, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, by the Service Director of the procuring service to act on his/her behalf in relation to procurement matters;
- 1.2.8 “Prescribed Thresholds” means the prescribed threshold values set by the Appropriate Legislation for supply, services or works contracts as they may be amended from time to time;
- 1.2.9 “Legislative Exemptions” means the exemption from the application of procurement rules under Appropriate Legislation and principles developed through case law and other means;
- 1.2.10 “Purchasing Guidelines” means those guidelines issued by the Director of Finance and Procurement setting out the detailed requirements for the conduct of purchasing and procurement activity within the Council (as amended from time to time);
- 1.2.11 “2015 Regulations” means the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015 or successor legislation (as amended from time to time);
- 1.2.12 “2016 Regulations” means the Procurement (Scotland) Regulations 2016 or successor legislation (as amended from time to time);
- 1.2.13 “Regulated Procurement” means a procedure to award a regulated contract being a public contract which is equal to or greater than £50,000 (other than works or health and social care contracts) or £2million for works contracts;
- 1.2.14 “Service Director” means the relevant Director of the procuring service area for the purpose of exercising any powers set out in these Standing Orders, the Chief Executive of the Council, or, in the case of cross-directorate purchasing or absence of the relevant Service Director, a Nominated Officer, the Director of Finance and Procurement, or such director as the Chief Executive may nominate.
- 1.2.15 “Social and other Specific Services” means a public contract or framework for social and other specific services as defined by the 2015 regulations including:-
- 1.2.15.1 Health, Social and related Services
  - 1.2.15.2 Administrative social, educational, healthcare and cultural services
  - 1.2.15.3 Legal Services
  - 1.2.15.4 Postal Services
- 1.2.16 “Schedule” means the schedule to these Standing Orders; and
- 1.2.17 “Standing Orders” means these standing orders including the Schedule and “Standing Orders” shall be interpreted accordingly.

### **1.3. General Principles**

- 1.3.1 The relevant officer with responsibility for procuring and/or commissioning shall, prior to commencing any procurement process, consult with the Procurement

Business Partner to ensure that Best Value is achieved and that the relevant sustainable procurement, fair work practices and equality requirements are considered.

- 1.3.2 Subject to 10.1, throughout the life of a contract the contract should;
- a) Be managed by the Contract Manager or as appropriate the Project Manager in respect of;
- performance
  - compliance with the specification and other terms of the contract;
  - cost and benefits;
  - Best Value requirements;
  - equality requirements,
  - delivery and risk management; and
  - continuous improvement and co-production principles
- 1.3.3 All procedures for initiating procurement, developing procurement strategies, inviting and receiving tenders, approval of contracts, and all contractual arrangements entered into shall comply with the Councils equality and sustainability requirements and policies, shall encourage fair working practices and payment of the Living Wage and, where appropriate, contractual or procurement arrangements shall include the use of community benefit clauses.
- 1.3.4 All expenditure must comply with the Council's Financial Regulations.

## **2. Procedures**

- 2.1 In addition to the obligations in Standing Order 1.3.3, before commencing a tendering procedure or making a purchase where no contract exists, the relevant Officer must consult with the Procurement Business Partner to establish whether:
- 2.1.1 Any existing contracts or framework contracts accessible to the Council may fulfil their requirements; or
- 2.1.2 There is any existing internal provision (including the Council's significant trading operations) or any other SBC Family resource which could be used such as Live Borders.
- 2.2 The procedure for the award of any contract shall depend upon the estimated aggregated value of that contract. The Appropriate Legislation on the aggregation of contracts shall apply and the artificial splitting of purchase orders or requirements to avoid the application of these Standing Orders is not permitted.
- 2.3 Subject to Standing Order 9, or where otherwise legally permitted in respect of proposed contracts which exceed the Prescribed Thresholds, the minimum associated tendering procedures that must be applied are detailed in the Schedule. For supported persons services the Procurement of Care and Support Services Guidance issued by the Scottish Government and COSLA and any guidance published under the Act or subsequent Regulations should be followed.

- 2.4 Health, social care and community services shall be procured in accordance with the Act, the 2015 Regulations, the 2016 Regulations, the Procurement of Care and Support Services 2016 (Best Practice) any statutory guidance issued under the Act and the principles of Co-production. For all purchases in excess of €750,000 the procedure shall be sufficient to comply with the principles of transparency and equal treatment of economic operators.
- 2.5 For all purchases in excess of £50,000 for goods and services and £2million for works, a procurement strategy is required detailing the circumstances of the requirement which may include:
- Description of the requirement
  - Key stakeholders
  - Budget information
  - Sustainable procurement considerations
  - Route to market
  - Procurement procedure
  - Key procurement risks
  - Proposed contract management arrangements
  - Procurement timetable
- 2.6 The procurement strategy must be formally authorised by the lead officer for the service in relation to the requirement, the budget holder, and an officer for the Corporate Procurement Service.

In line with the Council’s Scheme of Delegation, the procurement authorisation thresholds are set out in the following table:

Value	SoD	Authorising Officer
Up to £160,000	Tier 3	Senior Officer of the Corporate Procurement Service
£160,000 - £1,000,000	Tier 2	Procurement Business Partner
Over £1,000,000	Tier 1	Director of Finance and Procurement

- 2.7 For all purchases in excess of £50,000 for goods and services and £2million for works, the sustainable procurement duty introduced by the Act requires that before buying anything the Council must think about how it can improve the social, environmental and economic wellbeing of the area in which it operates with a particular focus on inequality and then act in a way that secures these improvements.
- 2.8 In accordance with its sustainable procurement duty the Council must consider how its procurement processes can facilitate the involvement of SMEs, third sector bodies and supported businesses and how innovation can be promoted. For contracts over the Prescribed Thresholds a contract may be awarded in the form of separate lots and where the decision is not to award in the form of separate lots this should be explained in the procurement documents.

- 2.9 The Council may reserve the right to participate in a tendering procedure to providers operating supported businesses, supported employment programmes or supported factories where more than 30% of the workers are disabled or disadvantaged persons in accordance with the 2015 Regulations. Where this right is exercised by the Council the contract award procedures provided by the Regulations and Act shall be followed.
- 2.10 Where legally permissible the Council shall seek to ensure that for purchases or contracts of an estimated value of £50,000 or less that at least one Small or Medium Enterprise (SME) from the Scottish Borders or an SME who is a significant employer within the Scottish Borders is invited to tender in any process. For future repeat procurements for similar goods, services or works the Council shall seek to ensure that at least one new SME from the Scottish Borders or a new significant employer within the Scottish Borders is invited to tender in any process.
- 2.11 Direct purchasing below £5,000 where the purchase cannot be secured from an existing contracted supplier, or no contract exists, is permissible subject to the Council's duty to secure Best Value. If the requirement cannot be sourced from a contracted supplier then the Service Director is responsible for ensuring best value. This will normally be evidenced by obtaining more than one quote and/or evidence of firm fixed prices. The Council's interest shall be further protected by ensuring the selected supplier or contractor is reputable and competent and holds the minimum insurance requirements along with any other specific Health and Safety policy requirements.
- 2.12 The Corporate Procurement Service shall be consulted as appropriate in respect of tendering arrangements for any proposed goods or services contract with estimated value between £5,000 and £50,000. Details of the minimum procedural requirements are provided in the attached schedule. For those arrangements where the value is estimated to be less than £25,000 then less formal written quotations can be used. These documents must be attached to the Purchase Order when raising the requisition in Business World.
- 2.13 The Procurement Business Partner shall advise on and make all tendering arrangements for any proposed contracts with an estimated value in excess of £50,000 (for goods and services) or £2,000,000 for works.
- 2.14 Direct purchasing above £5,000 without seeking a competitive procedure is permissible only in those circumstances that would be permitted by the Regulations or in accordance with Standing Order 9.
- 2.15 If an unsuccessful tenderer brings a written or formal challenge against the Council in relation to a tender exercise or questions the integrity of the tender process, the recipient of the notice of challenge or query must inform the Procurement Business Partner. The Procurement Business Partner must inform the Director of Finance and Procurement and Head of Legal as to potential legal challenges.
- 2.16 Any type of purchase transaction for any value where personal data is involved (or might be involved) must be brought to the attention of the Corporate Procurement Service before seeking contact with any possible external provider.



### 3. The Role and Responsibilities of Service Directors

- 3.1 Each Service Director has responsibility for all contracts tendered and let by their Directorate and is accountable to the Council for the performance of their duties in relation to contract award and management, which are as follows:
- 3.1.1 To ensure compliance with these Standing Orders and the Purchasing Guidelines (as appropriate);
  - 3.1.2 To ensure that staff with responsibility for procuring and purchasing goods, works and services access the guidance materials/on line training available on the intranet regarding Procurement and Purchasing to ensure they are aware of the processes and procedures when procuring goods, works and services;
  - 3.1.2 To ensure no contract is entered into by the Council without seeking advice where appropriate from the Procurement Business Partner and Head of Legal Services and having proper regard to such advice;
  - 3.1.3 To ensure that appropriate contract security (for example guarantees or performance bonds) is obtained where required or considered prudent;
  - 3.1.4 To approve where required by these Standing Orders an appropriate Procurement Strategy for each proposed purchase or contract;
  - 3.1.5 To check whether there is any existing Council or other collaborative framework that can appropriately be used to achieve Best Value for the Council before undergoing a further competitive tender process;
  - 3.1.6 To prepare, in consultation with the Procurement Business Partner, appropriate contract and tender documents which clearly specify the scope, quality and quantity of the works, goods or services;
  - 3.1.7 To keep all procurement materials/bids confidential subject to any legal requirements;
  - 3.1.8 To take appropriate measures to prevent, identify and remedy conflicts of interest arising in the conduct of procurement procedures so as to avoid distortion of competition and to ensure equal treatment of tenderers;
  - 3.1.9 To ensure that any technical evaluation panel is suitably qualified and trained to assess tenders;
  - 3.1.10 To ensure no supplier is requested by the Council to provide goods, services or works without first having a valid purchase order in place;
  - 3.1.11 To ensure that all necessary contract information for contracts of a value in excess of £50,000 for goods and services and £2million for works or more is provided within one month of entering into a contract to the Procurement Business Partner for the purposes of maintaining an up-to-date contract register;

- 3.1.12 To ensure all relevant staff are familiar with these Standing Orders and Purchasing Guidelines or other guidance issued in respect of these Standing Orders;
- 3.1.13 To ensure contracts are awarded, any necessary checks such as IR35 or Disclosure Scotland checks are carried out and any appropriate contract security documents are signed before work, services or supply provision commences;
- 3.1.14 To put in place arrangements for efficient contract and supplier management including the identification of a Contract Manager or Project Manager and the management of benefits and performance, for the entire duration of the contract, framework or dynamic purchasing system
- 3.1.15 To retain a copy of the contract and keep proper records of all contracts and tenders, including minutes of contract management and other meetings;
- 3.1.16 To take immediate action in the event of a breach of these Standing Orders or Purchasing Guidelines within his/her directorate;
- 3.1.17 To consult with Elected Members on matters reasonably considered politically, reputationally or financially sensitive in relation to proposed procurement activity;
- 3.1.18 To ensure that the Corporate Procurement Service is notified in writing of the name, position, and any restrictions or parameters pertaining to their delegated authority, of any Nominated Officer.

#### **4. Tender Documents**

- 4.1 The tender documents shall clearly set out the proposed method of evaluation as well as the scope, timing, quality and quantity of the works, services and supplies required by the Council.
- 4.2 The Head of Legal Services will be consulted on conditions of contract for particularly significant or complex projects or contracts. The definition of significant being one or more of the following criteria;
  - An estimated value in excess of the Prescribed Thresholds ;
  - Any contract where personal data will be shared;
  - Any contract/procurement activity requiring approval by the Executive Committee/Full Council.

#### **5. Evaluation of Tenders and Quotes**

- 5.1 Tenders and quotes for contracts in excess of £50,000 shall be evaluated on the basis of the most economically advantageous tender. It is not legally possible to use price or cost as the sole award criteria.

Lowest cost can only be the basis of evaluation for simple procurements of short-term, low-level services or goods of a standard specification where the cost is less than £50,000.

- 5.2 Tenders and quotes received after the closing date and time stipulated for return of tenders, or tenders which are incomplete or in an incorrect format will not be opened or considered unless the Council, acting proportionately, decides that there are circumstances which allow it to exercise discretion in allowing consideration of the tender. The Procurement Business Partner must be consulted if tenders are submitted late, incomplete or in an incorrect format.
- 5.3 Tenders shall be evaluated by a tender evaluation panel which should comprise officers having sufficient knowledge and technical ability to enable them to evaluate detailed tenders appropriately. The evaluation process shall follow any guidance issued by the Procurement Business Partner and be fully and appropriately documented. Where a tender involves the use, adoption or purchase of an Information Communication Technology (ICT) or digital service, software or hardware this must be undertaken in collaboration with the Council's IT Service.
- 5.4 Where a proposed purchase or tender involves the use, addition or purchase of any form of ICT device or digital service, software or hardware then the approval of the IT Team must be sought at the earliest opportunity and any purchase undertaken in collaboration and with the approval of the IT Team.

## **6. Acceptance and Award of Contracts**

- 6.1 Following the conclusion of the procedure for awarding contracts set out in these Standing Orders and, where applicable, the expiry of the mandatory standstill period, the resulting contract between the Council and successful tenderer shall be entered into following the approval process detailed in the Schedule. The Chief Executive or Service Directors or Nominated Officers will sign all goods and services and works contracts, provided the procurement was carried out solely by the Council for the Council. Awards of national and regional public contracts and framework agreements are made by the governing boards of the respective central buying bodies and in such cases, the Council will simply utilise those public contracts and frameworks (Standing Order 2.1.1).

## **7. Eligibility to tender and termination, variation or suspension of a contract**

- 7.1 Having due regard to the appropriate legislation and supporting advice from the Head of Legal Services, the Corporate Procurement Service may treat a potential tenderer as ineligible to tender where there are reasonable grounds to conclude that the contractor or potential tenderer:
- 7.1.1 Has committed an act of grave misconduct in the course of their business or profession; or
- 7.1.2 Has shown significant or persistent deficiencies in the performance of a substantive requirement under a prior public contract which led to early termination of that prior contract, damages or other comparable sanctions, subject to consideration by the Council of any measures taken to demonstrate reliability; or

- 7.1.3 Falls within one or more of the other grounds set out in the 2015 Regulations or
- 7.1.4 Has compiled, used, sold or supplied a prohibited list which:
  - i. contained details of persons who are or have been members of trade unions or persons who are taking part or have taken part in the activities of trade unions, and
  - ii. was compiled with a view to being used by employers or employment agencies for the purposes of discrimination in relation to recruitment or in relation to the treatment of workers, within the meaning of the Employment Relations Act of 1999 (Blacklists) Regulations 2010.
- 7.2 The relevant Officer of the Council may terminate, suspend or vary a contract, in accordance with the express or implied terms of the contract and may also take such further action with regard to any contract as the Council is legally entitled to take.

## 8. Online/Electronic Procurement

- 8.1 Requests for quotations and invitations to tender should (where practicable) be issued and/or received by online/electronic means using Public Contracts Scotland advertising portal/Public Contracts Scotland – Tender.

## 9. Waiver of Contract Standing Orders

- 9.1 The requirement to comply with any provision of these Standing Orders may be waived in accordance with the table in 9.2 below if on considering a written report by an appropriate officer it is considered that the waiver is justified because:-
  - 9.1.1 The circumstances of the proposed contract are covered by legislative exemptions including the nature of the market for the works to be carried out or the goods or services to be provided has been investigated and is demonstrated to be such that a departure from the requirement of Standing Orders is justifiable in accordance with the Appropriate Legislation and principles (for example when for artistic or technical reasons, or for reasons connected with the protection of exclusive rights, the contract may only be awarded to a particular provider) or the contract is for works, goods or services that are required in circumstances of extreme urgency that could not have been foreseen; or
  - 9.1.2 It is in the Council’s best interests considering factors such as best value, the risk of a successful legal challenge, any impact on service users along with the principles of transparency, equal treatment, non-discrimination and proportionality.
- 9.2 The table below sets out the relevant values and waiver approval requirements:

Value	Approval Procedure
£5,000 - £50,000	The relevant budget holder and a Senior Officer of the Corporate Procurement Service

£50,000 - £250,000	The relevant Service Director and the Procurement Business Partner
Over £250,000	The relevant Service Director, Procurement Business Partner and the Director of Finance and Procurement

- 9.3 A record of the decision approving a waiver of standing orders must be kept by the Procurement Business Partner who shall where appropriate make an entry in the appropriate register. A local copy must be kept by the relevant Service Director. The waiver procedure note and form is provided on the intranet.
- 9.4 Where prior approval for a waiver of these Standing Orders has not been obtained in advance the reason for this must be contained in the waiver report.
- 9.5 Where a waiver permitted by this Standing Order 9 allows the direct award of a contract which exceeds £50,000 then a contract award notice must be recorded on the Public Contracts Scotland portal and the relevant Service Director must notify the Procurement Business Partner of the details to allow entry on the contract register.
- 9.6 Where these Standing Orders have been waived in accordance with this Standing Order 9 the relevant Service Director shall put in place a written contract for that requirement without delay, inform the Procurement Business Partner and ensure appropriate plans are made for tendering the requirement where appropriate.
- 9.7 The requirement to waive these Standing Orders is not required where:-
- 9.7.1 A procedure or specific situation other than the open or restricted procedure is permitted by the 2015 Regulations, 2016 Regulations, the Act, or the Appropriate Legislation. In deciding whether the use of another procedure or specific situation is permitted the relevant Service Director shall seek advice from the Procurement Business Partner and/or Head of Legal Services.
- 9.7.2 The circumstances of the proposed contract are covered by legislative exemptions, for example certain research and development services.
- 9.7.3 Contracts with another public body for the purposes of ensuring co-operation with the aim of providing public services.

## **10. Contract Management, Monitoring and Evaluation**

- 10.1 During the life of the contract, the Contract Owner and Contract Manager must follow the policy and procedures contained in the Contract Management Handbook and manage the contract via Supplier Network, the Council's contract management platform, where appropriate.

## **11. Contract extensions or variations**

- 11.1 Subject to 11.2, the Procurement Business Partner may authorise an extension to a contract, or any other variation including a consequent change in price, provided such extension or variation is not contrary to the Regulations or the Council's legislative obligations.

- 11.2 A Service Director or Nominated Officer shall not extend or vary a contract if such extension or variation is not expressly permitted by the contract without seeking advice from the Procurement Business Partner.
- 11.3 The Appropriate Legislation on aggregation of contracts shall apply.

## **12. Review of Standing Orders**

- 12.1 These Procurement and Contract Standing Orders will be reviewed annually by officers, with any material change or additions being presented to the appropriate committee for approval.

## **13. Guidance on the Appointment of Consultants**

This section has been produced to supplement these Procurement and Contract Standing Orders with principles that relate specifically to the appointment of consultants. This guidance is intended to ensure consultants are used only where necessary and in a way which achieves best value for the Council.

### **13.1 Preliminary**

When appointing a consultant, all budget holders shall comply with the terms of the Council's Procurement and Contract Standing Orders.

### **13.2 Definition of "consultant"**

For the purposes of this guidance, a consultant is a specialist who charges a fee for providing advice or services in a particular area of expertise. Examples include project and/or business management, human resources, environment, communication, information technology, property and estates and financial services. Agency and temporary workers and professional services provided by solicitors, counsel and actuaries are excluded.

### **13.3 Principles to be applied when appointing consultants**

1. No alternative resource - budget holders shall only appoint a consultant where the service in question cannot be provided internally due to a lack of expertise or capacity.
2. Within approved budget - the cost of appointing a consultant shall be contained within the budget of the service or project for which the consultant is to be appointed.
3. Definition of outcomes - budget holders shall prepare a clear task definition and identify the required outcomes of the service prior to appointing a consultant.
4. Monitoring of outcomes - budget holders shall ensure that appropriate monitoring arrangements are in place prior to a consultant's appointment in order that payments to the consultant are only made in accordance with the satisfactory achievement of measurable outcomes.
5. Knowledge transfer - where consultants are appointed budget holders shall ensure that, where appropriate, Council staff fill key project roles and work closely with consultants to maximise the potential for transfer of skills and knowledge to Council staff.

### **13.4 Approval of engagement**

The appointment of a consultant for a service (or series of related services) for any value must be approved by the appropriate Service Director before any engagement process is commenced. The template form that should be used to make the approved request is available on the intranet.

Service Director approval shall not be required for services that are essential to the completion of a pre-approved Council Project. For the purposes of this guidance a Pre-Approved Council Project is a project for which there is a Council or appropriate committee report seeking consent to commence the project which includes an explicit reference to the requirement for consultants in the delivery of that project.

### **13.5 Re-engagement of former employees as consultants**

Without the express consent of CMT, a budget holder shall not appoint a former employee who has been granted early retirement or been given a voluntary redundancy or severance package (“former employee”).

If the proposed consultant is a former employee then that must be disclosed as part of the information provided to CMT.

### **13.6 IR35/Employment Status Assessment**

Any proposed engagement of a consultant must include the appropriate assessment as per HRMC requirements. Further information relating to this assessment is available via the Council intranet.

## Schedule

### Relevant Values and associated Tendering Procedures

<b>Goods and Services</b>		
<b>Value Bands</b>	<b>Procurement Route</b>	<b>Estimated Timescale</b>
Up to £5,000 Officers should proceed in a manner they consider most efficient to the Council	Use existing local, national, Council framework, DPS or call- off contracts or Appropriate choice of supplier documenting reasoning and quote - Best Value must be delivered and this will usually be demonstrated by more than one quote.	Not applicable
£5,000 to £25,000	Use existing local, national, Council framework, DPS or call- off contracts Or Written/formal quotations – written description of requirements followed by written / electronic submission of quotes	Recommend 2 weeks
£25,000 to £50,000	Use existing local, national, Council framework, DPS or call- off contracts Or A minimum of 3 formal quotations using Quick Quote via Public Contracts Scotland portal and/or equivalent should be used	Recommend 2 weeks minimum
£50,000 to Prescribed Threshold	Use existing local, national, Council framework, DPS or call- off contracts Or Invitation to tender following public advertisement using Public Contracts Scotland portal/PCS-T	3 – 8 weeks
Above Prescribed Threshold	Use existing local, national, Council framework, DPS or call- off contracts Or Invitation to tender following advertisement using Public Contracts Scotland portal/PCS-T	6 – 24 weeks depending on complexity



## Schedule (continued)

### Relevant Values and Associated Tendering Procedures

<b>Works Contracts</b>		
<b>Value Bands</b>	<b>Procurement Route</b>	<b>Estimated Timescale</b>
Up to £25,000	Use existing local, national, Council framework, DPS or call- off contracts Or Written/formal quotations – written description of requirements followed by written / electronic submission of quotes	Recommend 2 weeks
Up to £500,000	Use existing local, national, Council framework, DPS or call- off contracts or Minimum of 3 quotes via PCS Quick Quote Facility	Minimum of 2 weeks up to 8 weeks
£500,000 - £2,000,000	Use existing local, national, Council framework, DPS or call- off contracts or Minimum of 5 quotes via PCS Quick Quote Facility	Minimum of 2 weeks up to 8 weeks
£2,000,000 to Prescribed Threshold	Use existing local, national, Council framework, DPS or call- off contracts Or Invitation to tender following public advertisement using Public Contracts Scotland portal/PCS-T	2 – 4 months
Above Prescribed Threshold	Use existing local, national, Council framework, DPS or call- off contracts Or Invitation to tender following advertisement using Public Contracts Scotland portal/PCS-T	4 – 6 months