



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources (Transition) Committee
Subject:	Local Government (Contracts) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010
Date:	22 nd January 2010
Reporting Officer:	Ciaran Quigley (ext. 6038)
Contact Officer:	Kevin Heaney (ext. 6202)

1.0	<u>Relevant Background Information</u>
1.1	On 2 nd November 2009, the Department of the Environment's (DoE) Local Government Policy Division issued a draft of the Local Government (Contracts) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010 for consultation with comments sought by 29 th January 2010. A copy of the consultation document is attached thereto.
2.0	<u>Key Issues</u>
2.1	The proposed regulations contained within the consultation document are essentially technical in nature and set out certain requirements in relation to the certification of PFI type contracts. The purpose of the regulations is to clarify the legal power of district councils to enter into such contracts.
2.2	Having consulted with the Director of Legal Services, he has confirmed that there is nothing in the draft regulations which would raise any concerns or controversy for the Council. It is understood that the regulations have been considered by arc21 which has also indicated that it is content with the drafting of the proposed regulations subject to a minor revision to the regulations in relation to ensuring that the provisions as set out within the regulations apply to the two sub-regional Joint Committees, arc21 and SWamP, which have already been established pursuant to separate regulations. It has been suggested also that it would be useful if the proposed Contracts Regulations made provision for a pro-forma certificate in order to ensure consistency of administration.
2.3	It is therefore proposed that the Council respond to the Department of the Environment in a similar fashion, stating that it is content with the draft regulations as set out within the consultation document.

3.0 Resource Implications
There is no resource of Human Resources consequences contained within this report.

4.0 Recommendations
Members are asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) note the contents of this report; andii) agree to respond to the DoE on the basis that it is content with the draft regulations.

5.0 Appendices
Appendix 1: Draft Local Government (Contracts) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010

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