



Subject:	Contracts for Award
Date:	22 June 2018
Reporting Officer:	Ronan Cregan, Deputy Chief Executive and Director Finance and Resources Gerry Millar, Director of Property and Projects
Contact Officer:	Valerie Cupples, Procurement Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	The purpose of this report is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Seek approval from Members to allow the advancement and award of tenders as outlined in Appendix 1, Table 1 in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation.Seek approval from Members to allow extensions as detailed in Appendix 1, Table 2.Seek approval from Members to allow the advancement and award of direct award tenders as outlined in Appendix 1, Table 3 in accordance with the Scheme of delegation
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Approve the public advertisement and acceptance of tenders as listed in Appendix 1, Table 1 through the Council's electronic procurement system. Members are advised

	<p>that these tenders will only be advertised when they have gone through the Councils internal governance process which include demonstrating strategic alignment with the Belfast Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant delegated authority to the appropriate Director using pre-agreed criteria the most economically advantageous tender. • Allow month by month extensions where contracts are under review as outlined in Appendix 1, Table 2 • Agree to accede to Standing orders 55(a) exceptions in relation to contracts by direction of the council acting on recommendations of a Chief Officer that the exception is justified in special circumstances for the contracts laid out in 3.7 and Appendix 1, Table 3.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	<p>Section 2.5 of the Council's Scheme of Delegation outlines that under Standing Order 60(a) any contract that exceeds the statutory amount (currently £30,000) needs to be made under the Corporate Seal. Under Standing Order 51(b) the Corporate Seal can only be affixed when there is a resolution of the Council.</p>
3.2	<p>The tenders submitted for approval in Appendix 1, Table 1, have been forwarded by Departments for approval. Departments have been required to provide assurance that provision for the expenditure has either been made within their departmental budgets or approval has been sought from the Director of Finance and Resources that this expenditure has been provided for within a corporate budget.</p>
3.3	<p>Members should note that they are being asked to approve tenders in principal, after which the internal governance process demonstrating strategic alignment with the Belfast Agenda will be applied. As part of this process, Departments have also provided assurance that appropriate resources are available within their departments in order to effectively administer and management any contract(s).</p>
3.4	<p>In accordance with Standing Orders these tenders shall comply with the relevant requirements of national legislation and European directives and be overseen by Corporate Procurement Services.</p>
3.5	<p>This report relates to corporate and departmental supplies and services contracts only. The procurement of services and works contracts relating to the capital procurement is dealt with under the Capital Programme reports in accordance with the approved stage approval process.</p>

3.6

Direct Award Contracts

Members are asked to note that Corporate Procurement Services is currently under resourced and awaiting a report on the current procurement operating model. This position has resulted in an increase in the number of direct awards (single tender actions) and the requirement to accede to Standing Order 55(a).

3.7

Members are asked to accede to standing order 55(a) exception in relation to the contract by direction of the council acting on the recommendation of a Chief Officer that the exception is justified in special circumstances for the following:

- Local Authorities are required to provide annual property asset valuations in line with the Local Government (NI) Order 2005 and LGA (Accounts & Audit) Regulations NI 2015. For the last number of years Land and Property Services (LPS), procured via a framework, have provided this service. LPS provide asset valuation to all NI government bodies, all NI local authorities and other NI statutory bodies, they are regulated by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors and have built up extensive knowledge of the council's asset base. Furthermore they have no conflict of interest that other private valuation surveyors might have (particularly in respect of commercial and surplus lands portfolio).
- In order to provide accurate legal advice council solicitors must habitually research legislation; traditionally this was done through book research via law reports and legal texts. Lexis Nexus is an online database that allows access to a vast amount of legal material that cannot be replicated in book form. It is an invaluable tool for Legal Services permitting operational expediency and accuracy. No other database provides the same range of material and the Employment Law service it provide is unique.
- The Council requires specialist and technical support to undertake detailed accessibility and transport modelling to inform assessment of the emerging Belfast Region City Deal project proposals. This work is highly complex and bespoke, with David Simmonds consultancy having previous experience in this field and has a proven track record in undertaking similar important work for previous City Deals across the UK. Costs are contained within existing budgets.
- Commission KPMG to support the further development of the Belfast Region City Deal proposition including undertaking specialist economic and VFM modelling and prioritisation, project development and proposition design. This will ensure emerging proposals are compliant with HM Treasury and NICS requirements.
- Commission specialist support from Future Cities Catapult (FCC) to take forward the Belfast Region City Deal Digital and Innovation Strategy including the development of specific projects and identification of potential funding sources to support implementation. FCC are well-placed to deliver this work as they have direct connections with UK Government and have significant insight into the Government's Industrial Growth strategy and ambitions around innovation and digital transformation.

3.8	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>The financial resources for these contracts will be met within the current departmental budgets and the proposed departmental estimates process which are taken forward through the rate setting process.</p> <p>Costs relating to tenders 1. Economic, VFM and Inclusivity Modelling and 2. BRCD Digital and Innovation Strategy Technical Assistance will be apportioned across six councils participating in the Belfast Region City Deal on the basis of the Estimated Penny Product (EPP).</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p>
3.9	<p>No specific equality or good relations implications.</p>
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
4.1	<p>Appendix 1 Schedule of Tenders for Consideration / Notation</p> <p>Table 1 – New tenders</p> <p>Table 2 – Contracts for extension of contract period</p> <p>Table 3 - Direct Award Contracts (Single Tender Action)</p>