



Subject:	Contracts Update
Date:	24th January 2020
Reporting Officer:	Ronan Cregan, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance and Resources
Contact Officer:	Noleen Bohill, Head of Commercial and Procurement Services

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"/>
Sometime 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 or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• seek approval from members for tenders and STAs over £30,000• seek approval from members for expenditure related to specific exclusions for service contracts set out in the Public Contract Regulations 2015¹ "PCRs" to cover financial year 20/21
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approve the public advertisement of tenders as per Standing Order 37a detailed in Appendix 1 (Table 1).• Approve the award of STAs in line with Standing Order 55 exceptions as detailed in Appendix 1 (Table 2).

¹ Public Contract Regulations 2015; 10 Specific Exclusions for Service Contracts

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve the estimated expenditure of permitted excluded contracts as detailed in Financial Regulations K11 Appendix 1 (Table 3)
3.0	Main report
3.1	<p><u>Publically Advertised Tenders</u></p> <p>Section 2.5 of the Scheme of Delegation states Chief Officers have delegated authority to authorise a contract for the procurement of goods, services or works over the statutory limit of £30,000 following a tender exercise where the council has approved the invitation to tender</p> <p>Standing Order 60(a) states any contract that exceeds the statutory amount (currently £30,000) shall 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> <p>Standing Order 54 states that every contract shall comply with the relevant requirements of national and European legislation.</p>
3.2	<p><u>Single Tender Actions (STAs)</u></p> <p>The Council's Digital Services team is contracted to provide ICT services to the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE). These services include the hosting and support of the 'iWorld' Housing Benefit System.</p> <p>Northgate have proprietary rights for the iWorld' Housing Benefit System.</p> <p>The Department for Communities has given approval for the NIHE to proceed with preparations for developing the Discretionary Housing Payments Solution (DHPS) as an option for the continuation of mitigation for housing benefit claimants impacted by Social Sector Size Criteria aka 'bedroom tax' and Benefit Cap for 1 year from 1st April 2020.</p> <p>Should the Assembly decide to drop the DHPS, work will cease on all development works and the Council and NIHE will only be responsible for costs incurred to that date.</p>

