**HIGH LIFE HIGHLAND**

**CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS**

**MARCH 2012**

**V1.1**

**CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS**

**CONTENTS**

**Introduction: Page**

1. Executive Summary 4

2. Project Check List 5

**Context:**

1. Commencement 7

2. Definitions 7

3. Extent and Introduction 8

4. EU, UK and Scottish Legislation 9

5. Breach of Contract Standing Orders 9

6. Conflicts of Interest 9

**Applicable Standards:**

1. Exemptions from Standing Orders 10

2. Exceptions from Standing Orders 10

3. Budgetary Provision and Precautionary Tendering 11

4. Business Cases 11

5. Dispensing with Competition 11

6. Periodic Supplies and Framework Agreements 12

7. Aggregation of Demand and Partnership Working 12

8. Freedom of Information 12

9. Specifications 12

10. Sustainability and Equal Opportunities 12

11. Procurement, Project and Contract Risk; and Project Management 13

12. Significant Trading Operations 14

13. Reporting of Contracts and Contract Expenditure 14

14. Construction Design and Management Regulations 14

15. Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 14

16. Contract Register 15

**Operational Procedures:**

1. Authority to Invite Tenders 15

2. Advertising of Tenders 15

3. Framework Agreements 16

4. Tendering via Restricted Procedures and Ad-hoc Lists 16

5. Open Tendering 16

6. Content of Invitations to Tender 16

7. Evaluation Criteria 17

8. Handling of Tenders 18

9. Evaluation Procedures and Award of Contract 18

10. Risk Management Procedures 21

11. Quotations 22

12. Contract Documents 23

13. Termination of Contracts 23

14. Engagement of Consultants 23

15. Procedures for Procurement of Residual (“Part B13”) Services 23

**ANNEX 1 PRESCRIBED SUMS**

**ANNEX 2 AUTHORITY TO CARRY OUT PROCUREMENT WORK**

**ANNEX 3 CONTRACT REQUEST FORM**

**ANNEX 4 BUSINESS CASE TEMPLATE**

**ANNEX 5 TENDERING FAQs**

**ANNEX 6 PROCUREMENT TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**ANNEX 7 RETENTION SCHEDULE**

**ANNEX 8 DEFINITIONS OF SUPPLIES, SERVICES AND WORKS**

**ANNEX 9 INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR TUPE PURPOSES**

**INTRODUCTION**

**1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of these Orders is to implement within HLH the requirements of legislation and the fundamental principles of the Treaty of Rome applicable to the award of contracts.

These are

Freedom of movement of goods

Freedom of establishment

Freedom to provide services

With their derived principles being:

Equal treatment,

Non-discrimination,

Mutual recognition,

Proportionality

Transparency

They recognise the rights of anyone interested in providing goods, works or services to or on behalf of HLH to be treated in accordance with these principles at all levels of expenditure, which are applicable at all levels of financial commitment.

They also aim to achieve best value for HLH by establishing common compliance and application of standards throughout HLH’s operations so that HLH’s reputation as a responsible, competent, and fair contracting organisation is upheld and enhanced.

Finally they draw attention to the fact that all parts of HLH constitute only one contracting organisation, and that no establishment or operation within HLH is separate from it. As such they are applicable in all Services and all establishments, and operations to which responsibility for awarding contracts is delegated or outsourced.

Responsibility and accountability for all procurement within HLH lies with the Finance Manager, who has authority to determine all matters relating to procurement subject to compliance with legal requirements and the contract standing orders of The Highland Council. The Finance Manager may delegate areas of procurement to other appropriately trained officers of HLH.

Requirements for goods and services with a value of £5,000 or more, and requirements for works with a value of £15,000 or more, shall be subject to requests for competitive quotations, unless they are covered by one or more of the exceptions or exemptions noted below. Requirements for goods, services, or works with a value of £50,000 or more shall be subject to formal tendering procedures unless they are covered by one or more of the exceptions or exemptions noted below. These Prescribed Sums are set out at Annex 1 to these Orders.

Arrangements for competitive tendering for all requirements with a value in excess of the prescribed sum shall be made by the Head of Procurement of Highland Council of Highland Council.

Advertising will take place as follows as a minimum:

• Requirements with a value in excess of £50,000 but less than £156,442 (Supplies and Services) or £3,927,260 (Works): Council’s own Website via the Public Procurement Portal: www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk

• Requirements with a value in excess of £156,442 (Supplies and Services) or £3,927,260 (Works): Official Journal of the European Union (first) and HLH’s own Website, both via the Public Procurement Portal

**The single point of publication for these notices will be the Head of Procurement of Highland Council. This means that all Contracts subject to formal tendering procedures must be advertised via the Head of Procurement of Highland Council, and that where quotation level requirements are advertised on a voluntary basis, the same requirement applies.**

No transactions or commitments made or costs incurred may be split to avoid the necessity of appropriate calls for competition.

In all commitments made in the commissioning of consultancy services, regardless of value, Statements of Requirement and Terms of Engagement shall be documented in every case.

Tendering for goods, services, and works within HLH shall be carried out by electronic means unless specific agreement has been made with the Finance Manager that they shall be dealt with manually.

Procurement tasks shall be undertaken only by empowered staff, each of whom must have specific delegation allocated to them using the form at Annex 2 of these Orders.

Procurement via collaborative contracts such as those awarded by Procurement Scotland, Scotland Excel or the Office of Government Commerce (OGC) may be undertaken without further competition depending on the particular procedure recommended by the Agency concerned at the discretion of the Finance Manager. In all cases periodic ‘value for money’ checks involving other alternatives should be carried out as such agencies do not guarantee or always offer best value. HLH has committed itself to membership of Scotland Excel for the lifetime of the revision of these Orders, and as such will undertake to participate in Scotland Excel contracts unless current arrangements, alignment with strategic or operational requirements, additional supply chain or sustainability costs are added, or the rules of Best Value require otherwise. These must be tested prior to commitment, but once committed; this commitment will apply through the life of the contract concerned. In such cases the Head of Procurement of Highland Council shall provide justification for non-participation to the Finance Manager and HLH’s representative Members of the Scotland Excel Joint Committee, and following their approval, to the Director of Scotland Excel.

PROJECT CHECKLIST

No tendering exercise may be commenced until the following issues have been considered and approved by either the Head of Procurement of Highland Council (goods and/or services projects including consultancy) or the Finance Manager.

**Aims and Objectives YES/NO**

Existing Contract

Business Case

Budgetary Provision

Estimated Value Over 4 Years

**Governance**

Officers Have Appropriate Qualification, Skills, Experience And Training

Procurement Authorisation Forms

Project Has Relevant Procurement, Technical, Financial And Legal Input/Advice

Independent Decision Point Reviews For Innovative/Irregular Projects

Evaluation Panel Members

Tender Board Members

**Regulatory & Licensing**

TUPE

Construction, Design And Management Regulations

VOSA, SEPA, HSE Etc. To be made available as early in the project as possible

Planning Permission/Building Warrant To be made available as early in the project as possible

**Strategic/Community Benefits**

Sourcing Strategy/Lotting Strategy

Specification

Equality Impact Assessment Screening

Socio-Economic Sustainability

Environmental Sustainability

**Commercial**

Risks And Contingency Plans

PQQ And ITT Evaluation Criteria

Contract Terms And Conditions

Financial Vetting

Pricing And Price Control

Contract Management, MI And KPIs

Ordering and Invoicing

**CONTEXT**

1.0 **Commencement**

1.1 These Orders (“the Contract Standing Orders”) shall apply and have effect from 31 March 2012 and shall be subject to annual review.

2.0 **Definitions**

2.1 In these Contract Standing Orders, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings hereinafter assigned to them, that is to say:-

“The 1973 Act” means the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973;

“Building construction works contracts” means Works contracts, as defined by the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, included as Annex 8, but excluding infrastructure construction contracts

“Contract” means an agreement between HLH and another legal entity having the following characteristics: offer and acceptance/agreement, intention to form legal relationships, capacity (of the parties to enter such an agreement) and legality. A contract is not required to be concluded in writing in order to be binding but may be either verbal or implied by the actions of the parties. As such an agreement to work in partnership with a third party to achieve an end required by HLH is liable to be held to be a contract, and the output required by HLH will be subject to the same rules of competition and commercial conduct as any other requirement.

“Contracting Organisation” means High Life Highland: this is the Contracting Organisation in all Contracts into which HLH or any part of HLH enters. There are no legal personalities within HLH other than HLH itself or any of its trading subsidiaries and as such no Service, Unit, Establishment, or other part of HLH has the legal capacity to enter independently into a Contract. All Contracts let and purchases made are therefore made by or on behalf of HLH as a whole

“Consultancy” and “Consultant” means respectively the practice of giving expert advice, support, or opinion within a given field and any person or organisation providing any such service to, for, or on behalf of HLH.

 “Head of Procurement of Highland Council” in the context of the advertising, arrangement and management of competitive tendering and quotation exercises and award of contracts includes any Principal Contracts Officer or Contracts Officer within the Strategic Procurement Division.

“Infrastructure construction works contracts‘’ means Works contracts, as defined by the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, included at Annex 8, but excludes contracts which relate to the construction, maintenance or modification of buildings insulated in whole or in part.

“Most economically advantageous tender” means that giving maximum value for money over the lifetime of the contract for the goods, services or works delivered thereby, taking into account all material matters, visible or invisible, including but not being limited to quality and price. Other than “lowest price” it is the only acceptable means of deciding upon which tenderer should be awarded a contract in terms of the public procurement regulations. It must be noted that in assessing the most economically advantageous tender, the costs taken into account must be material to the purposes of the contract. In other words, the cost must bear upon a significant measurable characteristic of the requirement being procured

“Partners” are defined as any organisations with which HLH works to deliver its objectives, with a formal agreement of roles (contract, funding agreement, Service Level Agreement etc). Partnerships are defined by the agreements between the partners.1

“Partnering” means a form of collaborative working between partners and in contrast with traditional ‘arms length’ procurement and contract-management approaches, partnering is characterised by a greater degree of openness, communication, mutual trust and sharing information. There may often be a long-term relationship which requires clear roles and responsibilities for decision making, and effective performance reporting. Entering into such agreements is subject to the same rules of competition as other forms of agreement.

“Prescribed Sum” means the value of the Sum set out at Annex 1 to these orders.

“Procurement Officer” means a member of the Strategic Procurement Division or other Official empowered to award contracts on behalf of HLH by the Finance Manager in accordance with Annex 2 of these orders.

“Project Manager” means the member of staff appointed by the Sponsor or Board governing the project to deliver the project.

“Quality” in this context means fitness for purpose as defined in the Specification or Statement of Requirements.

“Services” ‘means any of the activities set out at Annex 8

“Supplies” means purchase, lease, rental or hire purchase, with or without option to buy, of products. A public contract having as its object the supply of products and which also covers, as an incidental matter, siting and installation operations shall be considered to be a ‘public supply contract

“Service Provider” “Supplier” and “Contractor” shall have the meanings ascribed to them as set out in the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/ssi2006/20060001.htm

“Sponsor” or “Sponsoring Director” means the owner of and budget holder for the requirement as distinct from the Procurement Officer carrying out commercial action on their behalf. The Project Sponsor/Project Director is the client side representative who acts as a single focal point of contact with the project manager for the day-to-day management of the interests of the client organisation

“Works” A ‘work’ means the outcome of building or civil engineering works taken as a whole which is sufficient of itself to fulfil an economic or technical function. A list of these is also set out at Annex 8

3.0 **Extent and Introduction**

These Contract Standing Orders are made under section 81 of the 1973 Act. They shall apply to the entering into by HLH, or on its behalf, of contracts for the supply, or lease, of Supplies, Services, and Works, as the case may be, unless classified as being exemptions or exceptions from these Contract Standing Orders. For the avoidance of doubt, these orders do apply to PFI/PPP, Joint Venture, and similar contracts.

They are written in accordance with the terms of the Scottish Government Procurement Policy Handbook, and Scottish Procurement Policy Notes, and shall be implemented by application of the standards and procedures set out in the High Life Highland Procurement Manual as published at the time of the requirement arising.

Policy responsibility for the governance of commercial business shall rest with the Finance Manager.

Subject to the requirements of HLH’s Standing Orders, European Community Law and legislation, the under-noted powers to enter into commercial arrangements on behalf of HLH shall be held by the Head of Resources who shall be the Proper Officer for the purpose of awarding and signing procurement contracts, variations, extensions, novation orders and terminations on behalf of HLH.

a) agreement of specifications with user Services

b) construction of contract terms and conditions

c) development of sourcing and contracting strategies

d) agreement of procurement budget heads

e) selection of tenderers

f) opening and evaluation of tenders

g) award of contracts and framework arrangements, including participation in collaborative contracts awarded by others

h) Appointment of consultants

Note that in these Orders, actions and responsibilities assigned to the Head of Resources will be executed on his behalf by the Finance Manager, who for the avoidance of doubt shall also be the Proper Officer for the purpose of awarding and signing procurement contracts, variations, extensions, novation orders and terminations and on behalf of HLH. This authority may be delegated, but only by means of a properly executed procurement authorisation form (see Annex 2)

4.0 **EU, UK and Scottish Legislation**

These Contract Standing Orders will be operated in such manner as will comply in all respects with the requirements of European Community Law, United Kingdom and Scottish legislation. There should be no conflict between these Orders and the legislation, but for the avoidance of doubt, in all cases EU law takes precedence, followed by UK and Scots law. For the avoidance of doubt, this shall include but not be limited to The Public Contracts (Scotland) Act 2006, the Public Contracts & Public Utilities Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2009 SSI 428/2009, The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, the Equality Act 2010, The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, The Data Protection Act 1998, The Prevention of Corruption Act 1906, and The Bribery Act 2011.

5.0 **Breach of Contract Standing Orders**

Any breach or non-compliance with these Contract Standing Orders must on discovery be reported immediately to the Head of Audit and Risk Management of Highland Council acting on behalf of the Finance Director. The Head of Audit and Risk Management of Highland Council should undertake any necessary investigation and report the findings to the relevant Head of service Chief Executive, as appropriate and disciplinary proceedings may result from such reports.

6.0 **Conflicts of Interest**

Staff involved in procurement activities are responsible for making themselves aware of HLH’s Code of Conduct for Staff. For the avoidance of doubt however, no member of HLH staff with a social or family connection with any member of the staff of any organisation expressing an interest in bidding for a particular requirement, where there is a likelihood that said member of the potential bidders staff is likely to have access to the development of a bid may be involved in any way on the procurement exercise related thereto. Similarly, no member of HLH staff with a pecuniary interest in any organisation expressing an interest in bidding for a particular requirement may be involved in any way on the procurement exercise related thereto.

**CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS – PART 1 APPLICABLE STANDARDS**

**1 EXEMPTIONS FROM STANDING ORDERS**

There will be exempted from the provisions of these Standing Orders:

(i) All contracts with a total estimated cost not exceeding the Prescribed Sums for quotations set out at Annex 1;

(ii) Any contract of employment;

(iii) Any contract excluded under the terms of the Public Contract (Scotland) Regulations 2006;

(iv) Any contract relating to the disposal or lease of land or other capital asset.

(v) Any arrangement in which HLH shall fund an external operator to provide services on a non-contractual basis. In such circumstances the principles of the Following the Public Pound Code shall apply.

**2 EXCEPTIONS FROM STANDING ORDERS**

Nothing in these Applicable Standards 3 to 16 and Operational Procedures 1 to 15 shall apply:

(i) (a) Where the Sponsor has satisfied the Finance Manager that the requirement is not readily obtainable from more than one supplier, service provider, or contractor, and it can be demonstrated that no equivalent is available; or that

(b) The prices of the goods, materials or specialist services are wholly controlled by trade organisations or government order and it can be demonstrated that no equivalent is available; or that

(c) The requirements are subject to intellectual property rights and it can be shown that either no suitable alternative is available, or that exposure to competition of an item covered by copyright, patent, or trademark would breach such rights. Note that where an item is described by a reference to a trade name, it must be followed by the phrase “or equivalent; or

(ii) Where there is an existing contract for the supply of any class of goods, works or services. Such contracts may only be extended without fresh competition within reason, and in accordance with any limitations set out either in the Contract itself or the Contract Notice. At least one of the following shall apply:

• the extension is justified on the basis of best value and/or operational necessity in which case it may not exceed the allowance for extension as set out within the terms and conditions of the contract or by more than 50% over the original scope or value of the contract, whichever is the lesser;

• the extension may be necessary in order to allow for the proper conduct of a competitive process,

• the requirement for extension has been brought about by an unforeseeable circumstance not within the control of HLH

In all cases the original contract must have been won *via* a competitive process and must be reasonable in all the circumstances

Any extension which constitutes a deliberate material variation of the original contract by nature or extent must be the subject of fresh competition

(iii) The demand is for the execution of work or the supply of goods, materials or services, certified by the Chief Executive as being required as an emergency measure so as not to permit the invitation of tenders. “Emergency” means only an event which could not reasonably have been foreseen. Each case must be reported to the Finance Manager and next meeting of the Finance and Audit Committee; or

(iv) the work to be executed or the goods, supplies or services to be provided consist of repairs to or the supply of parts for existing proprietary machinery or plant and HLH is bound by the terms of an agreement, by insurance requirements or by the terms of a warranty to use a specified contractor; or

(v) The contract is for the supply of goods acquired on the Commodities Market.

All instances of such exceptions arising shall be reported to the Finance and Audit Committee.

**3 BUDGETARY PROVISION AND PRECAUTIONARY TENDERING**

(i) HLH’s Financial Regulations make reference to the requirement to control capital and revenue expenditure, and therefore the terms of those Regulations must be implemented in the context of activity covered by these Orders.

(ii) In this respect, the Sponsor of any procurement project must certify that sufficient funds exist prior to the commencement of any contracting action. If the cost of the requirement is not known when it arises, similar requirements elsewhere may be used as a baseline. Informal consultation with potential providers, without making any commitment, may also be used.

(iii) Prior to the commencement of any commercial action, the Sponsor must advise the Procurement Officer conducting the competitive exercise of the associated budget

(iv) Precautionary formal tendering aimed solely at establishing costs must not take place. The only allowable exception to this is when external funding is anticipated which must be used within the current financial year. In those circumstances tendering in advance of final agreement is acceptable, but the situation must be made clear to all potential bidders.

**4 BUSINESS CASES**

(i) Before committing funds to or commencing a tendering process for any commercial arrangement in excess of the threshold for tendering via OJEU (whether advertised there or not) the Sponsor must ensure that a business case has been established. This must examine all possibilities for meeting the requirement. It must also show that no other contract which could be used already exists within HLH or The Highland Council. The business case template form is at Annex 4 of these Orders

**5 DISPENSING WITH COMPETITION**

(i) It is a fundamental principle of Public Sector procurement that purchases should be made as a result of competition.

(ii) Dispensing with competition at any level of purchase, which may amount to unfair discrimination, is contrary to the provisions of the Treaties of Amsterdam and Rome. Decisions to proceed with a non-competitive purchase above the prescribed sum for the obtaining of quotations, and the justifications for taking them must be recorded, and must only be made within the rules set out in Orders 1 and 2 above.

(iii) Procurement via collaborative contracts such as those awarded by Procurement Scotland, Scotland Excel or the Office of Government Commerce (OGC) may be undertaken without further competition depending on the particular procedure recommended by the Agency concerned at the discretion of the Director of Finance of Highland Council or Head of Procurement of Highland Council acting on his behalf. In all cases periodic ‘value for money’ checks involving other alternatives should be carried out as such agencies do not guarantee or always offer best value.

(iv) Breaking down or disaggregating requirements in order to avoid the necessity of exposing them to competition is contrary to public procurement regulations and must not be entered into under any circumstances.

**6 PERIODIC SUPPLIES AND FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS**

(i) The period of such arrangements shall not exceed four years without specific justification which must be published when the requirement is advertised.

(ii) Where a contract is for the supply of goods or materials or the provision of services or works by means of a call off contract within a framework agreement which allows for direct award of call-off contracts without further competition, formal tendering shall be carried out only once prior to the commencement of such arrangement.

(ii) Where Frameworks specify the establishment of contracts via competition between operators in the Framework, this shall be carried out prior to the commencement of each individual call-off.

**7 AGGREGATION OF DEMAND PARTNERSHIP WORKING, AND SHARED SERVICE CONTRACTS**

(i) Where requirements arise in more than one establishment, unit, Service, or other part of HLH, or where requirements are shared between such parts of HLH, then those requirements shall be aggregated for the purposes of procurement, and no part of HLH shall operate independently of any other.

(ii) Once a Contract or set of Contracts or Framework Agreements for any category of Supply or Services, or Works has been let corporately on behalf of HLH, it shall be a requirement for all Services to use the Contract for the provision of the Supplies, Services, or Works concerned where such requirements arise in those Services.

(iii) Partnership arrangements are a valid means of achieving best value through procurement. The establishment of partnerships must be subject to formal competition and must protect the interests of HLH, by the use of formally agreed and written terms and conditions.

(v) Consideration should always be given to the possibility of joining with other organisations to tender jointly for similar requirements, and research undertaken prior to commencement as to the feasibility of this approach.

(vi) In accordance with Scottish Government Local Authority Procurement Circular 1/2007, the award of a contract by one contracting authority to another for the provision of services from one to another in return for payments is subject to the same requirements for competition as any contract award procedure resulting in a contract award to a private sector organisation.

**8 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION**

(i) HLH shall treat its commercial and contractual relationships as confidential to the extent allowed by the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act.

(ii) To allow for the operation of the requirements of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act, the EU Procurement Directives, and the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations, a Contracts Register shall be published on Highland Council’s public website. The Finance Manager shall ensure that the Head of Procurement of Highland Council is provided with sufficient information to enable this to be kept up to date.

**9 SPECIFICATIONS**

(i) Formal Specifications or statements of requirement shall be developed either by the project Sponsor or by the project Sponsor in conjunction with the Finance Manager as appropriate for all tendered or quoted requirements for supplies, services (including each and every consultancy requiring competitive action), or works, which will fully define what the Contractor, Supplier, or Service Provider is to provide.

**10 SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUAL OPPORTUNTIES**

(i) To the full extent permitted under legislation at the time of undertaking the Contract, and where the statutory duty of Best Value is not comprised by doing so, HLH shall take full account of the issues of socio-economic and environmental sustainability wherever they are material to the purposes of the Contract. These aspects are commonly referred to as community benefits, and include the requirement to conduct procurement activities in the best calculated to contribute to the delivery of Highland Council’s duties under the Climate Change Act 2009.

(ii) HLH is committed to equal opportunities in all our activities; accordingly we expect prospective contractors to have policies in place that comply with existing equal opportunities and human rights legislation. Under the Equality Act 2010, public authorities are required to show due regard to the elimination of discrimination, the advancement of equality of opportunity and the fostering of good relations (the general duty) on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion and belief, sex, and sexual orientation. The protected characteristic of marriage and civil partnership is covered by the elimination of discrimination duty only.

The general duty applies to public functions which are carried out through procurement as well as those carried out directly by a public authority. Where a contractor is carrying out a public function on behalf of HLH, the legal liability for equality duties in relation to that function remains with HLH which contracts out the function.

Prior to commencement therefore, all contracts with a value requiring tendering via OJEU for the provision of works and/or services shall be subject as a minimum to initial screening for an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA), and the full production of an EQIA if the initial screening shows that to be appropriate. The assessment should be appropriate to the size and nature of the function or service, to inform the requirements when they are being specified. This will ensure that full consideration is given to the needs of, and the likely impact on, all users and others who will be affected by the contract.

Further information on equality legislation, including guidance on the public sector equality duties and how they apply to procurement, can be found on the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) website: <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com>.

(iii) Records of the name and location of each business submitting and expression of interest, and those submitting SAQ/PQQs and/or formal tenders must have the type of business recorded on the same tracking from (e.g. micro-SME, SME, Social Enterprise, Voluntary Organisation, Women Owned Business, LLP, BME, PLC, UK Multinational, foreign Multinational) in order to accurately monitor engagement with each sector to demonstrate pursuit of Single Outcome Agreement requirements.

**11 PROCUREMENT, PROJECT, AND CONTRACT RISK, AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

(i) These orders are written in order to ensure that staff operate in a way that conforms to the requirements of relevant legislation. In this way, HLH and individuals are protected from legal risk as far as can be reasonably foreseen. Individuals who break the rules set out within these orders not only expose HLH to unnecessary risk, but are also themselves exposed in cases where their actions constitute a criminal act.

(ii) As such, Projects may only be initiated by officers who have the appropriate qualification, skills, experience and training. In addition, it must be ensured that projects have relevant professional procurement, technical, financial, and legal input/ advice. Only officers who have had Procurement Authorisation Forms approved and have attended and approved procurement training course may carry out the tasks listed on the procurement authorisation form.

(iii) Formal Reviews will be introduced for innovative/ irregular projects, or those with a value in excess of £0.5M over the life of the contract. These will occur at key decision points in each project’s lifecycle and will be subject to governance by the major projects board or equivalent. These reviews will be documented, with decisions recorded, and will be undertaken by a team appointed by the major projects board, independent of the project and will thereby give assurance that the project is being delivered effectively and in a controlled manner

(iv) In respect of Capital projects, the Governance arrangements set out in HLH’s formal guidance on this matter must be adhered to.

 (v) In respect of a project with a value in excess of the OJEU tendering threshold (whether advertised there or not) the additional advice available in Treasury or OGC Guidance such as that relating to Option Appraisals, Joint Ventures, VFM and Risk Management and Project Models not covered in these orders, the Procurement Manual, Scottish Procurement Directorate documentation or Scottish Futures Trust documentation, must be used as appropriate in HLH Projects. Specialists in Capital finance and procurement will be able to provide advice on these matters.

**12 SIGNIFICANT TRADING OPERATIONS**

The regulations concerning significant trading operations will not apply to HLH. HLH will conduct trading operations through a trading subsidiary which will be bound by these Contract Standing Orders.

**13 REPORTING OF CONTRACTS AND CONTRACT EXPENDITURE**

(i) Prior to the commencement of any formal tender exercise, the Sponsor must establish a budget forecast for the requirement and shall certify that sufficient funds exist to cover this in accordance with paragraph 4 of these Orders. The Sponsor’s written commitment to this level of funding shall be passed to the Finance Manager prior to commencement, and this shall be recorded and kept on file within his/her office.

(ii) On award of any formally tendered contract, the subject of the contract, successful tenderer, budget figure and actual forecast expenditure shall be reported by the Finance Manager to the Head of Procurement of Highland Council and will published in Highland Council’s Contracts Register on its website.

**14 CONSTRUCTION (DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT) REGULATIONS 2007**

(i) Duties under the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007 require clients to provide pre-construction information to designers and contractors in any project involving works as defined in the CDM Regulations.

(ii) Further guidance is available from Housing Property Services Property Risk Management Unit and on \\ntpahq1\documentmanagement\Risk Management\Operational\CDM\CDM2007\cdm2007.htm

**15 TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKING (PROTECTION OF EMPLOYMENT) REGULATIONS**

(i) Where HLH seeks to outsource an activity currently provided in house, TUPE will affect any staff who have the essential part of their ongoing duties delivering the service immediately before the project commences (staff working intensively on a service for a very short period of time who are not normally engaged in that service will not be affected) and will be entitled to transfer to the new employer under TUPE.

(ii) Prior to the commencement of any project involving TUPE, guidance must be sought from Personnel, Procurement, Payroll/Pensions, and Legal Services, and appropriate time must be built into the project plan for all necessary staff and Union consultations.

(iii) HLH is obliged to provide the expected numbers of staff affected to prospective tenderers at commencement of the exercise. At the point of invitations to tender, the information set out in Annex 8 must be provided to prospective tenderers in respect of each staff member affected.

(iv) This must be clarified by a statement to the effect that final numbers will be provided at least two weeks before contract commencement, but that no liability for the accuracy of this information will be taken prior to that point, and that numbers are subject to variation.

(v) Any such contracts must contain a provision obliging the incoming service provider to keep records of staff assigned to the service and to provide that information on demand in order to enable re-tendering at the end of the contract.

(vi) Where HLH is re-tendering a service, it will be necessary firstly to ask the existing service provider whether or not they believe that TUPE applies. If they believe that TUPE will apply, then they must make the information set out at Annex 8 available to potential new providers of the same service on exactly the same basis as HLH did on first outsourcing the activity. They must provide the information to HLH and HLH will issue it with PQQ/ITT documentation, however HLH will take no liability for this information and must advise bidders that they must verify this information with the existing service provider, who will be legally and contractually bound to reply. Tender documentation must contain a term indemnifying HLH for liability in respect of the reliability of this information.

(v) Once contracts are let, either on first outsourcing or at re-tender, HLH has a legal duty to ensure that the incoming service provider acts in accordance with their TUPE obligations.

**16 CONTRACTS REGISTER AND TRANSPARENCY**

(i) Highland Council maintains a contracts register on its website, along with a list of all contracts to be advertised in the following twelve months which should be updated at least quarterly.

(ii) All contracts with a value of £50000 or more must be published in the contacts register via the Procurement Office.

**PART 2 OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES**

**1 AUTHORITY TO INVITE TENDERS AND PARTICPATE IN PROCUREMENT WORK**

(i) Formal tendering exercises shall be managed by the Finance Manager, following receipt of budgetary certification and business case. unless authority to do so is delegated by the Finance Manager to other Officers, either in the scheme of delegation, or specifically through authorisation of a Delegated Authority Form (Annex 2)..

(ii) Tenders in respect of goods or equipment to be supplied by way of a lease arrangement may only be invited following approval from the Finance Manager.

(iii) Tenders with a value in excess of the prescribed sums must be dealt with in accordance with the EU Commission Open, Restricted, Accelerated Restricted, Negotiated, or Competitive Dialogue Procedures. Timescales for these can be found in the Consolidated Procurement Directive http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2004/l\_134/l\_13420040430en01140240.pdf

(iv) For the avoidance of doubt no member of HLH staff may undertake any of the work covered by these Orders, including but not being limited to the award of contract at any value unless formally authorised to do so by the Finance Manager. The Finance Manager is responsible for ensuring that staff undertaking any of the work covered by these orders are adequately trained.

(v) Projects may only be initiated by officers who have the appropriate qualification, skills, experience and training. Procurement tasks may only be undertaken by staff who have attended HLH’s training courses. In addition, it must be ensured that projects have relevant and appropriate professional technical, financial and legal input/ advice.

**2 ADVERTISING OF TENDERS**

(i) In order to meet the requirements of the European Commission for adequate publicity of opportunities, advertising will take place as follows as a minimum:

a) Requirements with a value of £50,000 or more but less than £156,442 (Supplies and Services) or £3,927,260 (Works): Council’s own Website via the Public Procurement Portal: www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk

b) Requirements with a value in excess of £156,442 (Supplies and Services) or £3,927,260 (Works): Official Journal of the European Union (first) and HLH’s own Website, both via the Public Procurement Portal

**The single point of publication for these notices will be the Head of Procurement of Highland Council. This means that all Contracts subject to formal tendering procedures must be advertised via the Head of Procurement of Highland Council, and that where quotation level requirements are advertised on a voluntary basis, the same requirement applies**

**3 FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS**

(i) The Sponsor may decide to set up framework agreements in which parties admitted to the framework by way of competition may be invited to tender via further mini-competitions for individual contracts for the provision of goods, materials, services or works of specified categories, or in which direct orders can be placed on parties admitted to the framework without further competition. In the former case, invitations to tender for such contracts shall be limited to parties admitted to the framework

(ii) The establishment of framework agreements is subject to the same requirements for advertising and evaluation as all other contracts. No such framework may have a lifetime of greater than four years without specific and justifiable reason being recorded for the commitment to a longer period. Only one framework agreement shall be set up within HLH in respect of any category of goods, services or works, though these may be addressed as “lots” and in each case its compilation and maintenance shall be the responsibility of and shall be owned by the Procurement Officer assigned that category of supplies, works, or services. Framework Agreements may be made with one provider or with at least three providers, unless a multiple-supplier framework is required and only two competent tenders are received.

(iv) the means by which individual contracts within Framework Agreements are to be awarded must be set out within the terms of the framework during its formation.

**4 TENDERING VIA RESTRICTED PROCEDURES AND AD-HOC LISTS.**

(i.) Should the Sponsor choose to use ad-hoc list or restricted procedure tendering, then the requirement shall be advertised in accordance with Part 2 Para 2 of these Orders and expressions of interest invited. After the expiry of the period specified in the public notice, a select list of tenderers will be drawn up from the list of applicants returning questionnaires or providing other evidence of competence as set out in the advertisement. Invitations may then be made as detailed in part 7 of the High Life Highland Procurement Manual.

**5 OPEN TENDERING**

(i) Should the Sponsor choose to use an open tendering procedure, then the requirement shall be advertised in accordance with Part 2 Para 2 of these Orders, and expressions of interest invited. All persons responding must then be invited to tender as detailed in the High Life Highland Procurement Manual.

**6 CONTENT OF INVITATIONS TO TENDER**

(i.) For each contract the potential tenderers shall be issued a formal invitation to tender, detailing at least the following:

* the nature and purpose of the contract and detailed requirement specification
* the last date and time when Tenders will be received
* the return address
* that HLH is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender
* whether or not variant bids will be allowed (must be specified in the contract notice)
* The evaluation criteria to be used in priority order and with any weighting given.
* the draft contract document
* the no collusion certificate or certificate of bona fide tendering
* that HLH is subject to the requirements of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act, with non-disclosure items form
* the proposed amendments to contract form
* That HLH will not accept liability for bid costs.

(ii) Detailed procedures in respect of the recording, handling, and management of tender documents and the tender process are shown in part 7 of the High Life Highland Procurement Manual.

(iii) The confidentiality of tenders must be respected, and no details may be disclosed to any tenderer regarding any tender other than their own during the conduct of a tender. No officer who has direct or indirect personal pecuniary interest may participate in any tendering procedure, and all such interests must be declared prior to commencement of the tender exercise.

**7 EVALUATION CRITERIA**

(i) Prior to the publication of any notice or invitation to tender, the Sponsor must decide on the objective evaluation criteria to be used in assessing both pre-qualification questionnaires (if a two stage process is involved) and tenders. Pre-qualification criteria must be set in such a way as to ascertain and select tenderers who are qualified to tender, and contract award criteria must be set in such a way as to ascertain and award contract(s) in favour of the most appropriate tender(s) put forward in response to the invitation in terms of the most economically advantageous or lowest priced tender. These criteria must be weighted according to the needs of the contract, and both the criteria and their weightings must be published in the pre-qualification/tender documentation. In the case of tenders carried out in accordance with EU tendering procedures, the criteria and weightings must be set out in the OJEU notice or Pre-Qualification/Supplier Appraisal Questionnaire and Invitation to Tender. Criteria must include technical capability and compliance with any relevant health and safety requirements. Where these criteria are not met, tenders must be rejected. The reasons for using the agreed evaluation criteria must be recorded

(ii) Pre-qualification questionnaires and tenders must be checked and evaluated only of the basis of the published criteria, and no others, and contract awards must be made solely on the basis of that evaluation. Evaluation matrices are available within part 7 of the procurement manual. Evaluation of pre-qualification questionnaires must be based on assessment of the financial, legal, and technical standing of the potential tenderer only, and tender evaluation criteria must be based on assessment of actual proposals for meeting the requirement. The criteria used for pre-qualification may not be used in tender evaluation and the two sets of criteria must be distinct from each other.

(iii) Awards of contract may only be made by the Finance Manager, or Procurement Officer formally authorised to do so as per Annex 2 of these orders. Where a contract to be awarded is not the lowest priced or most economically advantageous, the view of the Head of Resources must be sought prior to award being made by the Finance Manager or Procurement Officer and the reasons for making the award must be reported to the Chief Executive.

(iv) Acceptable standards or pass marks relating to the financial, legal, and technical standing of the potential tenderer and supplier evaluation methodologies to be applied in Supplier Selection/Shortlisting/PQQ/SAQ assessments must be stated within the appropriate questionnaire.

(v) (Contract Award/Evaluation criteria may include

• Price (Whole Life Cost including running costs)

• Quality defined in terms of

• Technical Merit

• Aesthetic and Functional Characteristics

• Environmental Characteristics

• Effectiveness

• After Sales Service/Support

• Technical Assistance/Training

• Delivery Date/Installation

• Social Issues

(vi) For the avoidance of doubt, experience of the supplier/service provider/contractor, shall not be used as a contract award criterion, but only as a means of determining relevant technical expertise at PQQ/SAQ stage, and where used for that purpose, must not relate solely to experience of working with HLH but rather to similar projects in any referent organisation

(v) In all cases, these must be relevant and objectively measurable, and all criteria and their associated weightings must be published either with the contract notice or the invitation to tender. Selection criteria applied to SAQ/PQQs must be proportionate to the requirement in hand, i.e. requirements for turnover and number of staff must not be more restrictive than required for safe delivery of the requirement, and increased scoring should not be given for levels of such metrics over and above that required. Where membership of a particular organisation or qualification is required, the principle of mutual recognition must be upheld, and the words “or demonstrated equivalent” inserted.

**8 HANDLING OF TENDERS**

(i) Tenderers will be required to return their tenders via HLH’s electronic tendering system or by hard copy if this is impossible. Tenderers must be advised that open e-mail is not an acceptable method for returning tender documents. Late tenders and late submissions of outline and detailed solutions in Competitive Dialogue procedures may not be considered and if submitted in hard copy must be returned unopened to the tenderer unless tenderers can prove that lateness was caused by factors beyond their control. Where more stringent codes of practice apply, then those codes may be adhered to.

(ii) Upon receipt, all tenders must be receipted and logged, and retained unopened and secure until the advertised time of opening. Note that this is automatic where HLH’s electronic tendering system is used. A record of each tender received, showing the name of the tenderer, date received, date of tender, and value of tender must be retained on file. Where prices are submitted as a schedule, the pricing field on the tender recording form may be endorsed “see attached schedule” and a copy of the tender’s pricing pages attached to the form and retained with it. This may be retained electronically.

(iii) Tenders must be opened at the advertised time of opening or as soon as possible thereafter, simultaneously, by at least three persons, one of whom must be entirely independent of the exercise, unless HLH’s electronic tendering system is used in which case tenders may be opened by one officer. In such cases however, a tender opening form must still be completed by at least three members of the evaluation team as soon as possible after the closing date for submissions

(iv) Tenders which include Bills of Quantities must be checked for arithmetical accuracy, and where inaccuracies are found, the tenderer must be given the opportunity to correct them in accordance to any relevant Code of Practice (e.g. ACE, NEC, ICE or JCT) that is appropriate for the contract. If no particular code applies, the same opportunity must be afforded to such tenderers on the understanding that none of the individual figures constituting the wrongly calculated cost may be altered.

**9 EVALUATION AND AWARD OF CONTRACT**

(i) Contracts must be awarded in accordance with the published criteria and no others.

(ii) Evaluation will be split and Supplier Appraisal/Pre-Qualification Questionnaires and tenders will be separated so that initial evaluation and scoring will be carried out as follows

• Technical Evaluation: Specifiers/Requirement Owners supported by Procurement or Service contracting teams where the Project is covered by delegated procurement. The technical evaluation panel must consist of at least two staff. Procurement staff will not carry out technical evaluation, but will ensure fair, equal, and justified application of the evaluation criteria

• Financial Evaluation: Finance staff in respect of the Head of Procurement of Highland Council’s remit, or the project manager in respect of other requirements, supported by Finance as appropriate (e.g. for complex evaluations). See Paragraph (iii) of this section of the Orders

• Contract Evaluation: Procurement staff in respect of the Head of Procurement of Highland Council’s remit, or the project manager in respect of other requirements with reference to Legal Services as appropriate

• Sustainability Evaluation (where relevant): Procurement staff in respect of the Head of Procurement of Highland Council’s remit, or the project manager in respect of other requirements with reference to Specifiers/Requirement Owners supported by Policy as appropriate (e.g. for complex evaluations)

Following initial assessment and individual marking, formal evaluation meetings will be convened by the Project Manager to allow for finalisation of all markings on the same day, or where this is impossible, on consecutive days. Any discrepant marks will be examined to ascertain whether they arose from and erroneous reading of the tender, and once scorers are content with their scores and any reasons for discrepant scores formally recorded, scores will be fed into the evaluation spreadsheet which will generate overall final scoring.

(iii) Clarification questions and responses at both PQQ and ITT stage will be dealt with by Procurement staff in respect of the Head of Procurement of Highland Council’s remit, or the project manager in respect of other requirements only.

(iv) Tenders may be rejected immediately where they fail to meet the published criteria or where alternative terms and conditions are put forward which are unacceptable to HLH.

(v) Following evaluation, notification of intention to award a contract and rejection of tenders on the basis of the evaluation criteria must be issued simultaneously, however in respect of contracts tendered via OJEU, a period of at least ten days must elapse between this date and contract commencement in order to allow unsuccessful tenderers to appeal. This must be explained to the successful contractor in the letter of award.

(vi) Prior to the award of any formally tendered contract, Procurement staff in respect of the Head of Procurement of Highland Council’s remit, or the project manager in respect of other requirements will produce a tender report based on the template set out within HLH’s Procurement Manual to these Orders for consideration by the project sponsor.

(vii) In respect of tenders with a value requiring advertising via OJEU, a formal tender board meeting shall be convened chaired by the Head of the sponsoring service, and the tender evaluation panel will present the report and their conclusions to the tender board for consideration.

(vii) Project sponsors may elect to convene tender boards in respect of contracts with lower values, but in all cases the tender report must be accepted by the project sponsor before any indication of HLH’s intention to award a contract is published.

(viii) As soon as possible after the decision has been made, the project manager shall inform all tenderers and all candidates concerned (if any) both directly and via publication of a contract award notice any decision to—

(a) award a contract; or

(b) conclude a framework agreement.

This information shall include—

(a) the criteria for the award of the contract;

(b) in direct communications, the score obtained by—

(i) the economic operator which is to receive the notice; and

(ii) the economic operator to be awarded the contract; or to become a party to the framework agreement;

(c) the name of the economic operator to be awarded the contract; or to become a party to the framework agreement;

(d) in the case of direct communication with an unsuccessful economic operator, a summary of the reasons why the economic operator was unsuccessful;

(e) in the case of direct communication with an unsuccessful tenderer, the characteristics and relative advantages of the successful tender; and

(f) a precise statement of the rights of the recipient of the notice during any applicable mandatory standstill period.

This does not apply where—

(a) the only tenderer is the economic operator to be awarded the contract or to become a party to the framework agreement, and there are no candidates concerned; or

(b) the contract is a contract based on a framework agreement or a contract awarded under a dynamic purchasing system.

(c) the contract or framework agreement is exempt from the requirement for prior publication of a contract notice; or

(d) there are no tenderers concerned or candidates concerned.

Where a mandatory standstill period is required, the project manager shall within 15 days of the date on which he/she receives a request in writing from any economic operator which was unsuccessful—

(a) inform that economic operator of the reasons why it was unsuccessful; and

(b) in the case of an unsuccessful tenderer, other than a tenderer which has been informed by direct communication, inform that economic operator of the characteristics and relative advantages of the successful tender and the name of—

(i) the economic operator to be awarded the contract;

(ii) the parties to the framework agreement; or

(iii) the economic operators admitted to the dynamic purchasing system.

Information issued in accordance with this Order must include any reason for HLH’s decision that the economic operator did not meet the technical specifications or their equivalent

(ix) The project manager shall prepare and publish a record in relation to each contract awarded, framework agreement concluded or dynamic purchasing system established, specifying—

(a) the name and address of the contracting organisation;

(b) the value of the consideration to be given under the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system;

(c) the type of goods to be purchased or hired, the work or works to be carried out or, as the case may be, the services to be provided;

(d) the reasons why the successful economic operators were selected;

(e) the name of any economic operator—

(i) to which the contract was awarded;

(ii) with which the framework agreement was concluded; or

(iii) which was admitted to the dynamic purchasing system;

(f) the parts of the contract or framework agreement that the economic operator to which the contract has been awarded or with which the framework agreement has been concluded, intends to sub contract to another economic operator;

(g) where the negotiated procedure was used, what special circumstances constituted grounds for using that procedure;

(h) where the competitive dialogue procedure, details of the circumstances which constituted grounds for using that procedure and

(i) where HLH has abandoned a contract award procedure, the conclusion of a framework agreement or the establishment of a dynamic purchasing system, the reasons why the HLH has decided not to award the contract, to conclude the framework agreement or to establish the dynamic purchasing system as the case may be.

(x) Letters of award in respect of all contracts within the Head of Procurement of Highland Council’s remit will be issued from the HC procurement office and awarded in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation to the Finance Manager. Letters of award in respect of contracts delegated to other Heads of Service will be signed and issued by them and copied to the Highland Council Procurement Office. Letters of award in respect of contract award via quotations exercises or directly without competition will be copied to the Highland Council Procurement office.

**10 RISK MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES**

(i) In each formal tender, the Sponsor will assess the level of risk they wish to undertake and that which they wish to transfer to a Contractor when setting the appropriate detail of the specification, the particular terms and conditions which will form the basis of the Contract, levels of insurance, and performance bonds. Risk management tools include the following and further advice can be obtained from Internal Audit and Risk Management at Highland Council.

(ii) Insurance

(a) Employers’ Compulsory Liability Insurance (ECLI). The sum insured must be in accordance with relevant legislation existing at the time of the requirement arising. . HLH must see a copy of the ECLI insurance policy and/or a copy of the certificate of insurance prior to contract commencement

(b) Public Liability and All Risks/Professional Indemnity: The levels of insurance cover required in respect of each project should be set by HLH in the context of the contract and reflecting the level of risk involved to members of the public, HLH’s staff, its operational effectiveness, and its financial liabilities. Public Liability insurance shall be not less than the Prescribed Sum

(c ) Other forms of insurance: it is not possible in these orders to determine exactly what levels of specialist insurance should be required for every area of specialist service provision, however where specialist services are being provided, HLH’s Finance manager should be consulted when establishing a list of required insurances.

(iii) Financial Vetting: In respect of Contract with a value in excess of the prescribed sum, or in respect of contracts which the Sponsor views as exposing HLH to excessive risk, a formal financial assessment of the potential tenderers’ financial standing shall be undertaken prior to shortlisting of tenderers or at pre-qualification stage, depending upon the procedure used. In respect of project with a value in excess of the OJEU tendering threshold, checking of potential contractors’ financial standing must be undertaken via Finance at PQQ/SAQ stage and again prior to final commitment and award of Contract, at the discretion of the Project Sponsor. Minimum standards must be defined by the project team and made known to all bidders at commencement of the contract award process.

(iv) Liquidated Damages: Dependent on the terms of the contract document, where a breach, default or negligent act on the part of the Contractor result in direct losses to HLH, it will be the duty of the Sponsor to take appropriate action. This includes deducting pre-estimated liquidated damages, and making any appropriate retentions where such retentions are agreed as genuine pre-estimates of loss and may not be construed as unenforceable penalty clauses,

(v) Conditions of Contract: these must ensure clear contract arrangements and should contain clauses that will protect HLH against a variety of risks. The Head of Service must ensure that the conditions of contract are sufficient to deal with the risks involved in the project/contract.

(vi) Contingency Planning: Depending on the Sponsor’s assessment of risk, a contingency plan may require to be produced that provides an outline of decisions and considers the programme’s effects on public services and ensure that decisions are taken about those for which contingency arrangements will be needed. These can be complex and time consuming to produce and may only be appropriate when the level of risk envisaged breaches the boundaries of the Sponsor’s view of acceptability.

(vii) Forms of Security: Where a contract pre-tender estimate exceeds the prescribed sum, or, where the Sponsor ascertains that HLH is exposed to sufficient risk, the Sponsor shall consider whether HLH should require security for its due performance. He shall either certify that no such security is necessary or will decide what form of security may be appropriate. Forms include Parent Company Guarantees, Escrow Agreements, or Performance Bonds for the due performance of the contract. Note: “On Demand” Bonds are deemed unfair and should not be used. Where bonds are required, they should be from reputable UK based issuers.

(viii) Staged Payments and Retentions: In accordance with Financial Regulations, no Supplies, Services or Works should be paid for until they have been formally accepted and any required testing carried out. In the event that stage payments are required for each phase of a project, formal acceptance and any required testing of that phase must be complete prior to payment being made.

**11 QUOTATIONS**

(i) Where the estimated value of a requirement falls between the prescribed sum for the invitation of quotations and the prescribed sum for formal tendering, it will be appropriate to request quotations rather than to undertake a formal tendering process. The detailed minimum procedure applicable is set out at http://ntintra1/fin/purchasing/quotation-guidance-and-process.pdf. Quotations may be obtained via the Public Contracts Scotland Quick Quote system.

(ii) The procedures for dealing with quotations must be as rigorously fair and open as those for dealing with tenders, the only differences being that the requirement owner is not obliged to use a sealed bid procedure, may advertise in a more restricted manner, or may rely upon at least three reputable providers known to be competent to provide quotations. Reliance on the same providers for the provision of quotations may not be continued for any longer than two years without documented evidence that no other potential providers exist at the end of any such two year period.

**12 CONTRACT DOCUMENTS**

(i) Every contract subject to these Orders shall be in writing in an approved form, and shall specify all the applicable terms and conditions, drawn from High Life Highland standard terms and conditions of contract or other specialist or professional bodies’ terms and conditions as appropriate including a statement to the effect that

(a) Those terms and conditions shall apply, and that no others shall apply unless issued as a formal variation by HLH, and;

(b) that the Contract constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties relating to the subject matter of the Contract and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations and undertakings, whether written or oral, except that such Condition shall not exclude liability in respect of any fraudulent misrepresentation;

**13 TERMINATION AND VARIATION OF CONTRACTS**

(i) No contract may be terminated, or materially varied, on behalf of HLH without the prior approval of the Sponsor.

**14 ENGAGEMENT OF CONSULTANTS**

(i) Consultancy is subject to the full rigour of public procurement regulations. In all cases a formal Statement of Requirements and Terms of Engagement must be developed, and in all cases requiring the conduct of quotation or tender exercises, a formal Statement of Requirements and Terms of Engagement must be agreed by the Finance Manager prior to the engagement of the Consultant. Where it is likely that a former employee of HLH may be interested in undertaking the work, then in addition to the safeguards outlined in these Standing Orders, quotations or formal tenders shall be invited regardless of contract value. No contract shall be awarded to a former employee in receipt of a Council pension without the specific approval of the Chief Executive.

(ii) It will be a condition of the engagement of the service of any architect, engineer, surveyor or other consultant who is to be responsible to HLH for the supervision of a contract on its behalf, that in relation to that contract they will –

(a) Comply with these Contract Standing Orders as though they were a Head of Service of HLH;

(b) at any time during the carrying out of the contract, produce to the Finance Manager on request, all relevant records or copies maintained in relation to the contract; and

(c.) on completion of a contract, transmit appropriate records or copies to the appropriate Head of Service.

**15 PROCEDURES FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF RESIDUAL (“PART B”) SERVICES**

**(i) Procurement of services**

(a) HLH may not enter into a negotiated contractual agreement with a provider in respect of the Services listed as falling into this category at Annex 8 (11B) to these Orders without seeking competition unless one of the Exemptions or Exceptions set out within these orders can be demonstrated to apply

(b) Wherever possible the use of free and open competition shall be taken up.

(c) Where negotiated contracts are implemented, they shall be continuously monitored and amended as necessary and shall be approved annually by the appropriate Committee.

(d) No provider shall be contracted unless their:-

(i) Technical ability is certified as satisfactory by the Sponsor;

(ii) Financial standing is satisfactory;

(iii) Compliance with Health and Safety legislation has been evidenced.

**(ii) Exemption**

(a) There will be no requirement to tender for care or housing support services or other forms of self-directed service where the service user has the freedom to determine the identity of the service provider.

**(iii) Requirements for Adequate Publicity**

(a) In circumstances relating to “Part B” requirements, the terms of EU Commission Interpretive Communication 2006/C179/02 on the Community law applicable to contract awards not or not fully subject to the provisions of the Public Procurement Directives shall be adhered to:

http://www.govopps.co.uk/guidance\_db\_files/ec\_directives/communication\_en.pdf

**(iv) Procurement of Care and Support Services**

(a) These orders have been designed to accord with Scottish Government Guidance on the procurement of these services, however detailed information can be found at

http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/325109/0104824.pdf

(b) It shall be a requirement that any contract award procedure relating to the procurement of care and/or support services complies in full with this guidance.

**ANNEX 1**

**CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS**

|  |
| --- |
| **PRESCRIBED SUMS: £000**  |
| Exemption limit for contract using formal tender documents.  | (Below) 50  |
| Exemption limit for contract using quotations Supply (including lease) of goods, services and materials Maintenance/works contracts.  | (Below) 5 (Below) 15  |
| Exemption limit for financial vetting  | (Below) 500  |
| Exemption limit for leases to be approved by the Director of Finance  | (Below) 100  |
| Contract limit for performance bonds  | (Over) 500  |
| EU tendering threshold in respect of goods and services  | 156  |
| EU tendering threshold in respect of works  | 3,900  |
| Minimum value for employers’ liability insurance  | 5,000  |
| Minimum value for public liability insurance  | 5,000  |
| Minimum value for professional indemnity insurance (professional services and consultancy only)  | 1,000  |

**ANNEX 2**

**CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS**

**FINANCE MANAGER DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO PARTICPATE IN PROCUREMENT TASKS**

[Authority to carry out procurement work](http://highlifehighland.com/uploads/board/financeandaudit/procurement-authorisation-form.doc)

|  |
| --- |
| **Contract Standing Orders****FINANCE Manager DELEGATED Authority to undertake PROCUREMENT tasks** |

**It shall be a condition of exercising the undernoted duties that each Officer entitled to do so shall have this form completed and authorised by the Finance Manager prior to doing so.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Officer’s Name:**  |  | **Job JOB Title:** |  |
| **Service:**  |  |  **Section:**  |  | **Location/Area:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Contract and/or any Value Limits to which Authority extends :** |  |
| **Date Authorisation Limited Until:** |  |
| **Works (Y/N) :****(requires CDM training)** |  | **Supplies and All Services (Y/N):** |  |

**Please complete by ticking the relevant BOXES below**:

|  |
| --- |
| **Activity: QUOTATIONS (Up TO £49,999)** |
| **Administration of Quotation Procedures** |  |
| **Draw up Specifications and Statements of Requirements**  |  |
| **Utilise Standard Templates to Create Quotation Documents** |  |
| **Prepare Lists of Prospective Suppliers** |  |
| **Award Contracts at Less Than Formal Tender Value** |  |
| **ACTIVITY: TENDERS (OVER £50,000)** |
| **Select Method of Tendering** |  |
| **Draw up Specifications and Statements of Requirements** |  |
| **Formulate Contractual Terms and Conditions** |  |
| **Determine Evaluation Criteria** |  |
| **Draft Contract Notice (Advert)** |  |
| **Draft Contract Specific PQQ Questions** |  |
| **Evaluate PQQ / SAQ Submissions** |  |
| **Issue Invitations to Tender and Contract Documents (Works / Care Contracts Only)** |  |
| **Participate in SAQ / PQQ / Tender Evaluation** |  |
| **Recommend Award of Contract** |  |
| **Award Contracts (Works / Care Contracts Only)** |  |
| **Obtain Committee / Committee Chair Approval** |  |

**Accepted by: (Authorised Officer) Date:**

**Authorised By: (Service Line Manager) Date:**

**Approved by: (for Director of Finance) Date:**

**ANNEX 3**

**Contract Request Form**

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**Contract Request Form v0.1**

1. **Services/Goods/Works required** *(outline of the type of Services/Goods/Works you require a contract for and attach your specification as per Contract Standing Orders section 9)*

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| --- |
|  |

1. **Project Sponsor** *(State the name of the project sponsor who has approved the business case and budget, Contract Standing Orders 3ii, 4i)*

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| --- |
|  |

1. **Lead service** *(the Service or Services acting as the lead for the project - to be the Service or Services from which the budget is available)*

|  |
| --- |
|  |

1. **Estimated Value / Budget Approval / Contract Duration**
	1. *State the estimated value of the tender over the full contract period; and*
	2. *confirmation that the budget has been approved by the appropriate budget holder; and*
	3. *The duration of the contract to be tendered, including any proposed extensions. This should usually be between two to four years with potential for one or two year’s extension.*

*(Contract Standing Orders section 7)*

|  |
| --- |
|  |

1. **Risk**
	1. *State the risks to service provision of the project failing or not being taken forward (e.g. failure to deliver statutory duties); and*
	2. *Mitigating actions proposed for managing those risks*

*(Contract Standing Orders Applicable Standard section 11)*

|  |
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|  |

**6. Approved Business Case** *(Enclose a copy of the approved business case for this tender, if appropriate as required in HLHl Contract Standing Orders 4i. Also, sustainability and Equal Opportunities Impact Assessment as per Contract Standing Orders section 10 if applicable)*

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| --- |
|  |

**7. Evaluation Team Members** *(As per Contract Standing Orders 11ii, 7 and 9. Evaluators must have suitable technical skills and be suitably knowledgeable or qualified in relation to the subject matter of the tender. All evaluators must also have procurement authorisation)*

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**8. Intended Date of Commencement of Full Operations** *(State the target date of the commencement of full operations for the Services/Goods/Works being tendered. If appropriate, please indicate any reasons as to why this date must be achieved.)*

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**9. Any Period required for Setting Up Operations**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

1. **TUPE Issues** *(State whether or not members of council staff or staff of the existing contractor may be affected by a transfer to an new service provider)*

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**11. Service Contact Name and telephone number**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Tender Request form Received/Approved by**

**Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** **Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**ANNEX 4**

**Business Case Template**

|  |
| --- |
| **Business Case Template[[1]](#footnote-1)** |
| **Stage Outline** | **Detail** |
| **The Business Objectives of the Project** - including how it meets wider Council objectives |  |
| **The Critical Success Factors** – and how they will be measured including the cost, time and quality standards |  |
| What the Business Case should cover |  |
| **Expected Benefits*** Efficiency savings from rationalisation and joining up of processes
* Productivity improvements
* Improvements in user and management information
* How the savings and improvements in services will be monitored and realised
 |  |
| **Analysis of the Options** – for meeting the business objectives ensuring the preferred option is affordable, achievable and is supported by stakeholders |  |
| **Assessment of Risk** –which should cover the risks to the project and their impact on wider business objectives and services to citizens, taking into consideration mitigation and how risks will be managed |  |
| **Skills** - experience and competencies needed to implement the project |  |
| **The Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders** |  |

**ANNEX 5**

**Tendering FAQs**

**Tendering Process FAQs**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **How long does a tender process take?** |
|  | This will depend very much upon how prepared service staff are for the process, and how much time they are able to allocate to it. Most of the time taken is in the development of the specification and ensuring it is something suppliers can understand and price.  |
|  |  |
|  | **Can I talk to any potential suppliers who contact me during the tendering process?**  |
|  | No. It is very important that all suppliers are treated fairly and equitably. If you receive a query, please take a note of it and pass it to Procurement who will deal with it accordingly and in consultation with you. Do not allow yourself to be drawn into discussion with individual suppliers |
|  |  |
|  | **Who keeps what documentation at the conclusion of a tender process?** |
|  | Procurement will keep digital copies of all documents relating to the tender procedure. Digital copies of the tender documents will be supplied to the Project Sponsor who has a responsibility to take ownership of these and store according to the document retention schedule set out in the Contract Standing Orders.  |
|  |  |
|  | **What do I do if I receive any complaints about a tender process or its conclusion?** |
|  | You should make no comment on the complaint, and pass it to Procurement immediately who will deal with it on your behalf and in consultation with you. |
|  |  |
|  | **I’m part of an Evaluation Panel – what does this mean and what do I have to do?** |
|  | As part of an Evaluation Panel, you must have some technical expertise in the subject matter of the contract, and to be able to score submissions accordingly. The responsibilities are as follows:-Technical Evaluation: Specifiers/Requirement Owners supported by Procurement or Service contracting teams where the Project is covered by delegated procurement . The technical evaluation panel must consist of at least two staff. Procurement staff will not carry out technical evaluation, but will ensure fair, equal, and justified application of the evaluation criteria Financial Evaluation: Procurement staff in respect of the Head of Procurement’s remit, or the project manager in respect of other requirements, supported by Finance as appropriate (e.g. for complex evaluations) Contract Evaluation: Procurement staff in respect of the Head of Procurement’s remit, or the project manager in respect of other requirements with reference to Legal Services as appropriate Sustainability Evaluation (where relevant): Procurement staff in respect of the Head of Procurement’s remit, or the project manager in respect of other requirements with reference to Specifiers/Requirement Owners supported by Policy as appropriate (e.g. for complex evaluations) You will be given an evaluation matrix to complete and guidance upon how to score, which will be individual to the contract. Evaluation meetings will be chaired by Procurement who will advise if there are uncertainties, and ensure a level playing field for suppliers |
|  |  |
|  | **What happens once a contract is awarded?** |
|  | Once awarded the contract is operational and it is up to the staff purchasing from the contract to manage it on a day to day basis. Procurement may be involved at a strategic level depending on the reporting and management provisions agreed in the contract, and if any problems become apparent in the operation of the contract, these should be raised with Procurement who will advise or take action as required. |
|  |  |
|  | **I’ve become involved in a tendering process but don’t know much about it.** |
|  | Any staff involved in procurement must complete a Procurement Authorisation Form as set out in the Contract Standing Orders, have it approved by their line manager and passed to the Director of Finance for final approval. On conclusion of this process your details will be passed to the Employee Development Unit as Procurement training is mandatory for all those involved in Procurement |
|  |  |
|  | **Procurement have asked for a copy of my Business Case for my project. I don’t have one. Why have I been asked for this?** |
|  | The Council requires to have clearly set out rationale for all projects, and the Chief Executive has instructed that for all contracts over the EU thresholds, the Project Sponsor must ensure that a Business Case has been prepared which examines all possibilities for meeting the requirement. In respect of a project with a value in excess of the OJEU tendering threshold the additional advice available in Treasury or OGC Guidance such as that relating to Options Appraisals, Joint Ventures, VFM and Project Models must be used as appropriate. |
|  |  |
|  | **Further advice and detail is available in the Contract Standing Orders and supporting Procurement Manual, all available through the intranet at** [**http://ntintra1/fin/purchasing/rules.htm**](http://ntintra1/fin/purchasing/rules.htm) |

**ANNEX 6**

**Procurement Tasks Responsibilities and Timescales**

**Procurement Tasks Responsibilities and Timescales**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | ***Task*** | **Who is responsible?** | **How Long does it Take, and are there any Special requirements?** |
| 1 | **Obtain Business Case approval and draft Specification/Statement of Responsibilities** | Service | This depends. Anything from a day or two to a month or two depending on the complexity of the contract |
| 2 | **Discuss and Agree Specification, Evaluation Criteria, Procedure, staff to be involved, and Timescales** | Procurement and Service | This depends. Anything from a day or two to a month or two depending on the complexity of the contract |
| 3 | **Prepare Contract Documents – Pre Qualification Questionnaires/Invitation to Tender/Draft Contract** | Procurement | Procurement will have 10 working days to provide draft documents. These will be returned to the Service, whose staff will have 5 working days to request any alterations and return to Procurement. Procurement will finalise the documents within another 5 working days |
| 4 | **Advertise Contract** | Procurement | This will not take place until all contract documents are ready for issue.  |
| 5 | **Deal with enquiries from Suppliers** | Procurement will receive and answer all queries, with reference to Service for Technical details | This takes place throughout the process from the time the contract is advertised. It is important that all suppliers are treated equally, hence Service staff should not deal with queries themselves, but pass them onto Procurement who will ensure all suppliers have the same information made available at the same time |
| 6 | **Receive PQQ submissions for Restricted (2 stage) procedures** | Procurement | No less than 30 days for projects advertised in OJEU, whatever is agreed to be reasonable in terms of the effort required to complete them by bidders for lower value projects.  |
| 7 | **Obtain any missing or incomplete documents and pass to Service once complete** | Procurement | Often policies or other required documents are missing, Procurement will check the completeness of all submissions and chase any missing documentation as appropriate. A week is generally allowed for this |
| 8 | **Read and draft score PQQ submissions (Restricted Procedure)** | Service and Procurement | Time take will depend on the number received, hence will vary from tender to tender. It is important Services recognise that this is a time consuming process and factor resources in accordingly. See 9 below for the detail of who does what. |
| 9 | **Evaluate PQQ submissions (restricted Procedure)** | Procurement will organise and Chair, Service to provide staff to advise  | Generally 2 days are allowed for this, though depending on the number to be evaluated it may not take as long. Technical Evaluation: Specifiers/Requirement Owners supported by Procurement or Service contracting teams where the Project is covered by delegated procurement. The technical evaluation panel must consist of at least two staff. Procurement staff will not carry out technical evaluation, but will ensure fair, equal, and justified application of the evaluation criteria Financial Evaluation: Procurement staff in respect of the Head of Procurement’s remit, or the project manager in respect of other requirements, supported by Finance as appropriate (e.g. for complex evaluations) Sustainability Evaluation (where relevant): Procurement staff in respect of the Head of Procurement’s remit, or the project manager in respect of other requirements with reference to Specifiers/Requirement Owners supported by Policy as appropriate (e.g. for complex evaluations)  |
| 10 | **Invite Tenders**  | Procurement | Restricted or two stage Procedure: no less than 40 days for projects advertised in OJEU, whatever is agreed to be reasonable in terms of the effort required to complete them by bidders for lower value projects.Open or one stage Procedure: no less than 45 days for projects advertised in OJEU, whatever is agreed to be reasonable in terms of the effort required to complete them by bidders for lower value projects. |
| 11 | **Receive and Open Tenders** | Procurement with Service Representation | A Service representative requires to be present for the opening unless wholly electronic tenders are received. Should be scheduled to take place as soon as practically possible after closure of the tendering period and should be completed within one day. |
| 12 | **Obtain any missing or incomplete documents and pass to Service** | Procurement | A week is generally allowed for this. Often policies or other required documents are missing, Procurement will check the completeness of all submissions and chase any missing documentation as appropriate |
| 13 | **Read tender submissions and score in draft** | Service | This is essential so that Service staff are prepared for the Evaluation panel meeting. Time take will depend on the number received, hence will vary from tender to tender. It is important Services recognise that this is a time consuming process and factor resources in accordingly. |
| 14 | **Undertake Financial and Legal checks where required** | Procurement | Any required supplier checks will be co-ordinated by Procurement during both the PQQ and Tender stages. Time taken will depend on the number and level of detail required. |
| 15 | **Tender Evaluation Panel Meeting** | Procurement will organise and chair, Service to provide staff to evaluate | Generally 2 days are allowed for this, though depending on the number to be evaluated it may not take as long. Technical Evaluation: Specifiers/Requirement Owners supported by Procurement or Service contracting teams where the Project is covered by delegated procurement . The technical evaluation panel must consist of at least two staff. Procurement staff will not carry out technical evaluation, but will ensure fair, equal, and justified application of the evaluation criteria Financial Evaluation: Procurement staff in respect of the Head of Procurement’s remit, or the project manager in respect of other requirements, supported by Finance as appropriate (e.g. for complex evaluations) Contract Evaluation: Procurement staff in respect of the Head of Procurement’s remit, or the project manager in respect of other requirements with reference to Legal Services as appropriate Sustainability Evaluation (where relevant): Procurement staff in respect of the Head of Procurement’s remit, or the project manager in respect of other requirements with reference to Specifiers/Requirement Owners supported by Policy as appropriate (e.g. for complex evaluations)  |
| 16 | **Write Tender Report** | Procurement, with Service staff checking final draft | A week is allowed for this |
| 17 | **Organise Tender Board Meeting** | Service | This generally takes place the week after 16 above |
| 18 | **Award of contract and debriefs** | Procurement with Service input as required | This takes place following 17 above, and for over the OJEU threshold contracts requires a week to draft the letters and debrief information followed by a 10 day standstill period |
| 19 | **Post award contract management** | Service with Procurement support as required | Throughout the life of the contract |

**ANNEX 7**

**DOCUMENT RETENTION SCHEDULE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Note: These records may be electronic or digital rather than hard copy. Note also that these are minimum standards. In some cases, for example in respect of EU funded projects, the funding authority may require longer retention periods, or the contract itself may contain long term liability conditions which will require them to be retained for the period of the liability. Care should be taken in each case to ensure that the correct period is used. Document  | Retention Period  |
| Contract documents (per Limitations Act 1980)  | Current + 5 Years  |
| Evaluation reports  | “  |
| Hire/Rental Agreements  | “  |
| HM Revenue and Customs Import documentation  | “  |
| Maintenance/Software licence agreements  | “  |
| Purchase Orders  | “  |
| Specifications  | “  |
| Successful Tenders  | “  |
| Successful Quotations  | “  |
| Variation Orders  | “  |
| Unsuccessful Quotations  | Current + 1 Year  |
| Unsuccessful Tenders  | “  |
| Pre-Qualification/Supplier Appraisal Questionnaires  | “  |
| Tender Envelopes (from award)  | 1 Month  |
| All procurement documentation relating to projects benefiting from European funding.  | 10 years from the date of final payment of any related account  |

**ANNEX 8**

**DEFINITIONS OF SUPPLIES, SERVICES, AND WORKS**

**For the avoidance of doubt, the scope of works/construction contracts and services contracts is broken down as follows, in line with definitions set out within the Consolidated Procurement Directive**

**CONSTRUCTION**

Construction of new buildings and works, restoring and common repairs including

**Site preparation**

Demolition and wrecking of buildings; earth moving:

Demolition of buildings and other structures

Clearing of building sites

Earth moving: excavation, landfill, levelling and grading of construction sites, trench digging, rock removal, blasting,

Site preparation for mining including overburden removal and other development and preparation of mineral properties and sites

Building site drainage

Drainage of agricultural or forestry land

Test drilling and boring including test drilling, test boring and core sampling for construction, geophysical, geological or similar purposes

**General construction of buildings and civil engineering works including**

Construction of all types of buildings

Construction of civil engineering constructions:

Bridges, including those for elevated highways,

Viaducts, tunnels and subways

Long-distance pipelines, communication and power lines

Urban pipelines, urban communication and power lines;

Ancillary urban works

Assembly and erection of prefabricated constructions on the site

This class excludes:

Erection of complete prefabricated constructions from self-manufactured parts not of concrete,

Erection of roof covering and frames including erection of roofs roof covering waterproofing

**Construction of highways, roads, airfields and sports facilities including**

Construction of highways, streets, roads, other vehicular and pedestrian ways

Construction of railways

Construction of airfield runways

Construction work, other than buildings, for stadiums, swimming pools, gymnasiums, tennis courts, golf courses and other sports installations

Painting of markings on road surfaces and car parks

This class excludes:

Preliminary earth moving,

**ANNEX 8**

**DEFINITIONS OF SUPPLIES, SERVICES, AND WORKS**

**Construction of water projects including**

Construction of:

Waterways, harbour and river works, pleasure

Ports (marinas), locks,

Dams and dykes

Dredging

Subsurface work

**Other construction work involving special trades including**

Construction activities specialising in one aspect common to different kinds of structures, requiring specialised skill or equipment:

Construction of foundations, including pile driving

Water well drilling and construction, shaft sinking

Erection of non-self-manufactured steel elements

Steel bending

Bricklaying and stone setting

Scaffolds and work platform erecting and dismantling, including renting of scaffolds and work platforms

Erection of chimneys and industrial ovens

**Building installation: Installation of electrical wiring and fittings including**

Installation in buildings or other construction projects of:

Electrical wiring and fittings

Telecommunications systems

Electrical heating systems

Residential antennas and aerials

Fire alarms

Burglar alarm systems

Lifts and escalators

Lightning conductors

**Insulation work activities including**

Installation in buildings or other construction projects of thermal, sound or vibration insulation

**Plumbing including**

Installation in buildings or other construction projects of:

Plumbing and sanitary equipment

Gas fittings

Heating, ventilation, refrigeration or air-conditioning

**ANNEX 8**

**DEFINITIONS OF SUPPLIES, SERVICES, AND WORKS**

**Other building installation including**

Installation of illumination and signalling systems for roads, railways, airports and harbours

Installation in buildings or other construction projects of fittings and fixtures

**Building completion**

Plastering including:

Application in buildings or other construction projects of interior and exterior plaster or stucco, including related lathing materials

Joinery installation including:

Installation of non self-manufactured doors, windows, door and window frames, fitted kitchens, staircases, shop fittings and the like, of wood or other materials

Interior completion such as ceilings,

Wooden wall coverings, movable partitions

Floor and wall covering including:

Laying, tiling, hanging or fitting in buildings or other construction projects of:

Ceramic, concrete or cut stone wall or floor tiles

Parquet and other wood floor coverings

Carpets and linoleum floor coverings, including of rubber or plastic

Terrazzo, marble, granite or slate floor or wall coverings

Wallpaper

Painting and glazing including:

Interior and exterior painting of buildings

Painting of civil engineering structures

Installation of glass, mirrors,

Other building completion including:

Installation of swimming pools

Steam cleaning, sand blasting and similar activities for building exteriors other building completion and finishing work

**PRIORITY SERVICES**

Maintenance and repair services (excluding the fabric of buildings and other constructions)

Land transport services and courier services, except transport of mail

Air transport services of passengers and freight, except transport of mail

Transport of mail by land and by air

Telecommunications

Financial services:

(a) Insurance services

(b) Banking and investment services

Computer and related services

**ANNEX 8**

**DEFINITIONS OF SUPPLIES, SERVICES, AND WORKS**

Research and development services

Accounting, auditing and bookkeeping services

Market research and public opinion polling services

Management consulting services and related services

Architectural services; engineering services and integrated engineering services;

Urban planning and landscape engineering services; related scientific and technical consulting services; technical testing and analysis services

Advertising services

Building-cleaning services and property management services

Publishing and printing services on a fee or contract basis

Sewage and refuse disposal services; sanitation and similar services

Also excluded: services involving the acquisition or rental, by whatever financial procedures, of land, existing buildings, or other immovable property or concerning rights thereon;

**Annex II B (“Part B” or RESIDUAL SERVICES)**

Hotel and restaurant services

Rail transport

Water transport services

Supporting and auxiliary transport services

Legal services

Personnel placement and supply services

Investigation and security services, except armoured car services

Education and vocational education services

Health and social services

Recreational, cultural and sporting services

Other services

**ANNEX 9**

**INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR TUPE PURPOSES**

**Information on staff to be provided by the Highland Council or incumbent service provider to enable tender pricing**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Information Item  | Employee 1  | Employee 2  | Employee 3  | Employee 4 etc  |
| Date of Birth  |  |  |  |  |
| Age  |  |  |  |  |
| Continuous Service Start Date With Current Employer  |  |  |  |  |
| required periods of notice  |  |  |  |  |
| gender  |  |  |  |  |
| pensionable service in years/days as at DDMMYY  |  |  |  |  |
| employers contributions  |  |  |  |  |
| employees contributions  |  |  |  |  |
| job title  |  |  |  |  |
| salary  |  |  |  |  |
| hourly rate  |  |  |  |  |
| employment status  |  |  |  |  |
| contracted hours  |  |  |  |  |
| annual holiday entitlement  |  |  |  |  |
| holiday pay entitlement  |  |  |  |  |
| sick pay entitlement  |  |  |  |  |
| overtime allowance in last 12 months  |  |  |  |  |

1. Adapted from the National Audit Office Report: Better Public Services through e-Government [↑](#footnote-ref-1)