

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

21 September 2015

1. **REVISION TO PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE STANDING ORDER**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

RECOMMENDED

THAT the Authority approve the revised Procurement Procedures Standing Order attached as Appendix 1.

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is submitted to Members to seek approval to amend Standing Order 1/8 Procurement Procedures.

3. **BACKGROUND**

3.1 This Standing Order has been reviewed in line with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 which came into effect on 26 February 2015. The main changes include:

- Clarity on awarding a contract to another Contracting Authority
- Changes in reporting requirements
- Changes to evaluation criteria rules
- Changes in timescales for return of tenders
- Clarity on pre-market engagement
- Introduction of new competitive procedures
- Clarity on variations to contracts

3.2 Tenders in excess of £100,000 are currently reported to Members requesting permission to tender and again after award for information. In line with changes made to The Constitution, approved by the Authority at its meeting on the 29 June 2015, this value has been amended to £250,000.

- 3.3 The introduction of an electronic tendering system has led to changes to the issuing of tender opportunities and in the opening procedure.
- 3.4 Enhanced requirements to consider Social Value in all contracts in addition to the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012, given the increased significance of this issue. [Social Value is a measure of outcomes and benefits from any activity that tackles social problems, improves people's lives, communities or the environment].

4. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

In preparing this report an initial Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out. The matters contained within this report are low impact and will not lead to a change in policy.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The review of this Standing Order complies with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 in which Fire and Rescue Authorities are defined as Contracting Authorities.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications as a result of the course of action recommended.

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications as a result of the course of action recommended

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The Public Contract Regulations 2015

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