

**WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**22 SEPTEMBER 2014**

1. **REVISION TO PROCUREMENT STANDING ORDER**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer and Clerk and Monitoring 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, particularly in relation to the submission, opening and registration of formal tenders, changes to the EU financial tendering thresholds and the level of involvement of Corporate Procurement in procurement activity.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 This Standing Order has been reviewed in line with the Service's three year review of Standing Orders. This report seeks approval for these amendments.
- 3.2 Tenders in excess of £100,000 are currently opened in the presence of the Chairman, the Team Leader People Support, the Director of Resources, the Corporate Procurement Manager or their nominated representatives. In an attempt to streamline this process it is proposed that the Chairman or their nominated representative be removed from this process.
- 3.3 The EU Tendering thresholds were amended to £172,514 for Supplies and Services contracts and to £4,322,012 for Works contracts with effect from 1 January 2014.
- 3.4 On the advice of Sandwell Legal Services the provisions of the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 have now been referenced in the revised Standing Order.

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3.5 As a result of planned internal audit reviews a number of minor amendments have been incorporated into the revised Standing Order.

3.6 The changes to the Standing Order have been highlighted in the revised Standing Order at Appendix 1.

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 2006 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 2006

The contact name for this report is Mike Griffiths, Strategic Enabler for Finance and Resources, telephone number 0121 380 6919.

PHIL LOACH  
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

NEERAJ SHARMA  
CLERK & MONITORING  
OFFICER