

COVID-19 UPDATES TO PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES

1. Reference within the Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules to the following Officers,
 - Chief Executive,
 - Chief Finance Officer,
 - Monitoring Officer,
 - Chief Legal Officer,
 - Chief Officers,
 - Procurement Service Manager,shall be taken to refer to any other officers nominated by the above.
2. All references to the key decision threshold of £250,000 for approvals are increased to £2,000,000.
3. The requirement for Strategic Investment Unit appraisals is suspended and replaced with approval from the relevant Chief Officer.
4. Section 13 is suspended with regard to existing contracts that are due to expire during 2020. For these contracts an extension period of up to 12 months may be applied, subject to agreement with the supplier and continued value for money.
5. For new contracts below the threshold for supplies and services set out in the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR 2015) (see appendix A for thresholds), a direct contract award may be made, provided that value for money can be demonstrated and subject to budget holder approval.
6. For contracts above the threshold for supplies and services set out in the PCR 2015 (see Appendix A), but below £2,000,000, where there is an urgent requirement a direct contract award is permissible if this can be made in compliance with PCR 2015 and value for money can be demonstrated. The Procurement Service Manager must be consulted to confirm compliance with PCR 2015 and Chief Officer approval must be sought before proceeding. Contract award is subject to Chief Officer approval.
7. New contracts may be commenced once the contract award and terms and conditions are confirmed in writing; confirmation may be by reference to tender documentation.

Appendix A – Summary of Threshold Levels from 1st January 2020

The Public Contracts Regulations

Supplies & Services	£189,330
Works	£4,733,252
Light Touch Regime for Services	£663,540
Small lots	
Supplies and services	£70,778
Works	£884,720

The Concession Contracts Regulations

Concession contracts £4,733,252