



Subject:	Contracts for Award
Date:	20 October 2017
Reporting Officer:	Ronan Cregan, Deputy Chief Executive and Director Finance and Resources Gerry Millar, Director of Property and Projects
Contact Officer:	Valerie Cupples, Procurement Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	The purpose of this report is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seek approval from Members to the advancement and award of the tenders as outlined in Appendix 1, Table 1 in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Approve the public advertisement and acceptance of tenders as listed in Appendix 1, Table 1 through the Council's electronic procurement system.2. Grant delegated authority to the appropriate Director using pre-agreed criteria the most economically advantageous tender and allow month by month extensions where contracts

	<p>are under review.</p> <p>3. Agree to accede to Standing Orders 55(a) exceptions in relation to contracts by direction of the council acting on recommendations of a Chief officer that the exception is justified in special circumstances for the completion of capital works to space in the Belfast Telegraph on the basis that there is an extreme urgency brought about by events unforeseeable to the Council.</p>
3.0	Main report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	Section 2.5 of the Council's Scheme of Delegation outlines that under Standing Order 60(a) any contract that exceeds the statutory amount (currently £30,000) needs to be made under the Corporate Seal. Under Standing Order 51(b) the Corporate Seal can only be affixed when there is a resolution of the Council.
3.2	The tenders submitted for approval in Appendix 1, Table 1 , have been forwarded by Departments for approval. Departments have been required to provide assurance that provision for the expenditure has either been made within their departmental budgets or approval has been sought from the Director of Finance and Resources that this expenditure has been provided for within a corporate budget.
3.3	Members should note that they are being asked to approve tenders in principal, after which the internal governance process demonstrating strategic alignment with the Belfast Agenda, will be applied.
3.4	As part of this process, Departments have also provided assurance that appropriate resources are available within their departments in order to effectively administer and management any contract(s).
3.5	In accordance with Standing Orders these tenders shall comply with the relevant requirements of national legislation and European directives and be overseen by Corporate Procurement Services.
3.6	This report relates to corporate as well as departmental supplies and services only. The procurement of services and works contracts relating to the capital procurement is dealt with under the Capital Programme reports in accordance with the approved stage approval process.
3.7	<u>Direct Award Contracts</u>

The UK Government's Digital Catapult (DCUK) has identified 'immersive technology' as a significant growth area for the national economy and wishes to establish three national 'immersive technology' hubs by November 2017. Locations have been already identified in Gateshead and Brighton and are due to open on this timescale. DCUK wish to establish a third in Belfast.

In August 2017 the NI Department for Economy (DfE) and Digital Catapult NI identified space within the Belfast Telegraph building as an ideal venue for the hub Officials from DfE are now engaging with the Bel Tel LLP to agree licensing terms and fees for this space for an initial 18 month period.

Capital work estimated at £127,000 is required to bring the identified space up to a suitable standard by November 2017 and Council have agreed through the SP&R committee in September to contribute to this capital cost. (Ratified by Council 2.10.17) Estimates for completion of the on-site work is six weeks which, in order to meet the critical November opening date of the hub required by DfE and DCUK, requires the Council to directly appoint contractors early in October

Normal tendering processes take approximately 12 weeks and would mean that the crucial opening date for the hub would not be met and thus the opportunities and other investments, including jobs, associated with the hub would be at risk. Permission is sought to contract directly with McAleer and Rushe who as a partner in the BELTEL board have detailed knowledge of the building and the ability to deliver the works commencing immediately. An independent report from Bruce Shaw Quantity Surveyors has confirmed this estimate is 'fair and reasonable'.to complete capital work required to bring the identified space in the Belfast Telegraph up to a suitable standard.

Members are asked to accede to Standing Order 55(a) exceptions in relation to contract by direction of the council acting on a recommendation of a Chief officer that the exception is justified in special circumstances for the appointment of McAleer & Rushe to complete capital works to space in the Belfast Telegraph on the basis that there is an extreme urgency brought about by events unforeseeable to the Council.

Financial & Resource Implications

- 3.8 The financial resources for these contracts will be met within the current departmental budgets and the proposed departmental estimates process which are taken forward through the rate setting process.

Equality or Good Relations Implications

- 3.9 No specific equality or good relations implications.

4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Contracts For Award, (Appendix 1- Table 1) - Schedule of tenders for consideration