

Contract Procedure Rules

March 2023

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TABLE 1: AUTHORISATION AND ACCEPTANCE THRESHOLDS

<u>Total Spend / Aggregate Contract Value (Including VAT)</u>	<u>Procurement Process</u>	<u>Documentation Required</u>	<u>Authorisation for award of contracts Under the Scheme of Delegation</u>
<p>Low Value Non-Recurring Spend up to £1500</p> <p>Upper Limit for Petty Cash and Cheques £250</p>	<p>Procurement Card – to be used consistent with the Procurement Card Policy.</p> <p>Must be used in accordance with the Petty Cash and Cheque Policy</p>	<p>Receipts must be kept as a record of purchase.</p>	<p>Not Applicable</p>
REQUEST FOR QUOTATION			
<p>Up to £4,999</p>	<p>1 quotation</p> <p>Must be from a local business</p>	<p>Quotation must be attached to the requisition in D365</p>	<p>Grade 9 – Grade 11</p> <p>For purchases up to £24,999</p>
<p>£5,000 to £49,999</p>	<p>3 quotations</p> <p>1 must be from a local business</p> <p>VAT must be included in the value before determining the procurement route</p>	<p>Mosaic–manual copies of Quotations /Contracts must be kept on file.</p> <p>As a minimum the council's Very Low Value Terms and Conditions of Contract must be issued with the purchase order.</p>	<p>Management Grade</p> <p>For purchases from £25,000 to £49,999</p>

<u>Total Spend / Aggregate Contract Value (Including VAT)</u>	<u>Procurement Process</u>	<u>Documentation Required</u>	<u>Authorisation for award of contracts Under the Scheme of Delegation</u>
<p>£50,000 to £99,999</p> <p>VAT must be included in the value before determining the procurement route</p>	<p>Procurement can be consulted for guidance.</p> <p>Minimum 3 proportionate tenders required from suitable Suppliers. At least 1 must be from a Local Business.</p>	<p>A written contract must be signed between the Council and the Supplier.</p> <p>A Selection Questionnaire is not required.</p> <p>Suitability assessment Questions Only.</p>	<p>Director Grade</p>

<u>Total Spend / Aggregate Contract Value (Including VAT)</u>	<u>Procurement Process</u>	<u>Documentation Required</u>	<u>Authorisation for award of contracts Under the Scheme of Delegation</u>
TENDERING PROCESS: PROCUREMENT INVOLVEMENT MANDATORY			
<p>£100,000 to £249,999</p> <p>VAT must be included in the value before determining the procurement route</p>	<p>Authority to procure must be obtained prior to any tender activity commencing by completing a Procurement Gateway 1 report.</p> <p>The Directorate Procurement Board must be consulted on the report before obtaining approval from the relevant Director exercising their delegated powers.</p> <p>The procurement must be advertised and tendered via the London Tenders Portal and Contracts Finder.</p> <p>Procurement of supplies, services and works over the current Financial Thresholds* requires a UK Notice and advertising.</p> <p>Authority to award must be obtained prior to any supplier being given a contract, by completing a Procurement Gateway 2 award report.</p> <p>The Directorate Procurement Board must be consulted on the report before obtaining approval from the relevant Director exercising their delegated powers to award.</p> <p>When required a Standstill Period must be observed prior to award of Contract.</p>	<p><u>Gateway 1 Authority to Procure</u></p> <p>UK Notice to be Published (if applicable) and Contracts Finder advert</p> <p>SQ only required for procurement above Financial Thresholds</p> <p>Invitation to Tender documents including: Terms & Conditions of Contract Service Specification Method Statement Questions including clear evaluation criteria and sub criteria Pricing Document Information to Tenderers</p> <p><u>Gateway 2: Award Report</u></p> <p>UK Notice to be Published on FTS (if applicable) and Contracts Finder Contract Notice and Contract Award Notice</p> <p>The Council's Terms and Conditions of Contract must be approved and sealed by the Director of Legal and Governance Services.</p> <p>The master signed and sealed copies must be sent to the Corporate Procurement Team. A master copy will then be sent to the Supplier and one master retained</p>	<p>Corporate Director</p>

<u>Total Spend / Aggregate Contract Value (Including VAT)</u>	<u>Procurement Process</u>	<u>Documentation Required</u>	<u>Authorisation for award of contracts Under the Scheme of Delegation</u>
TENDERING PROCESS: PROCUREMENT INVOLVEMENT MANDATORY			
<p>£249,999 to £499,999</p> <p>VAT must be included in the value before determining the procurement route</p>	<p>Authority to procure must be obtained prior to any tender activity commencing by completing a Procurement Gateway 1 report.</p> <p>The Directorate Procurement Board must be consulted on the report before obtaining approval from the relevant Director exercising their delegated powers.</p> <p>The procurement must be advertised and tendered via the London Tenders Portal and Contracts Finder.</p> <p>Procurement of supplies, services and works over the current Financial Thresholds* requires a UK Notice and advertising.</p> <p>Authority to award must be obtained prior to any supplier being given a contract, by completing a Procurement Gateway 2 award report.</p> <p>The Directorate Procurement Board must be consulted on the report before obtaining approval from the relevant Director exercising their delegated powers to award.</p> <p>When required a Standstill Period must be observed prior to award of Contract.</p>	<p><u>Gateway 1 Authority to Procure</u></p> <p>UK Notice to be Published (if applicable) and Contracts Finder advert</p> <p>SQ only required for procurement above Financial Thresholds</p> <p>Invitation to Tender documents including: Terms & Conditions of Contract Service Specification Method Statement Questions including clear evaluation criteria and sub criteria Pricing Document Information to Tenderers</p> <p><u>Gateway 2: Award Report</u></p> <p>UK Notice to be Published on FTS (if applicable) and Contracts Finder Contract Notice and Contract Award Notice</p> <p>The Council's Terms and Conditions of Contract must be approved and sealed by the Director of Legal and Governance Services.</p> <p>The master signed and sealed copies must be sent to the Corporate Procurement Team. A master copy will then be sent to the Supplier and one master retained</p>	<p>ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</p> <p>Chief Executive</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Director of Finance</p> <p>Counter Signature</p> <p>Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Finance and Human Resources.</p>

<u>Total Spend / Aggregate Contract Value (Including VAT)</u>	<u>Procurement Process</u>	<u>Documentation Required</u>	<u>Authorisation for award of contracts Under the Scheme of Delegation</u>
TENDERING PROCESS: PROCUREMENT INVOLVEMENT MANDATORY			
<p>£500,000+</p> <p>VAT must be included in the value before determining the procurement route</p>	<p>The Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Finance and Human Resources must be consulted at the pre procurement planning stage. [See Section 14]</p> <p>The Directorate Portfolio Holder must be consulted throughout the commissioning planning and procurement phase of the project. [See Section 14]</p> <p>Approval to procure should be obtained by completing a cabinet report and having a Cabinet decision prior to any tender activity commencing.</p> <p>Must be advertised and tendered via the London Tenders Portal and Contracts Finder.</p> <p>Procurement of supplies, services, and works over the current Financial Thresholds requires a UK Notice and advertising.</p> <p>Approval to award must be obtained by a Cabinet* decision to make an award of Contract.</p> <p>When required Standstill Period must be observed prior to award of Contract.</p>	<p>The Procurement must be recorded on the Key Decisions Forward Plan.</p> <p>The Cabinet report seeking approval to commence or award a Contract must be cleared by the Portfolio Holder for the service and the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Human Resources before it is submitted to Cabinet for approval.</p> <p>*Where delegated authority to award is being requested then the delegations requested must be as set out in the next column. A Gateway 2 award report must be written where delegated authority to award has been granted.</p> <p>Invitation to Tender Documents which will include Terms and Conditions of Contract; Service Specification; Method Statement Questions; Pricing Document; Information to Tenderers including clear evaluation criteria and sub criteria.</p> <p>UK Notice to procure be Published on FTS (if applicable) and Contracts Finder Advert. An SQ is required.</p> <p>UK Notice to be Published (if applicable) and Contracts Finder Contract Notice and Contract Award Notice</p> <p>The Council's High Value Terms and Conditions of Contract must be approved and sealed by the Director of Legal and Governance.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>*When delegated authority to award has been approved by Cabinet then the Corporate Director that has been given the delegation to award must do so in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for the service area and the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Human Resources</p>

TABLE 2: WAIVER APPROVAL PROCESS

[only to be used in exceptional circumstances]

Waiver Value	Documents Required	Waiver Approval
25,000 to 99,999	<p>Please complete the online waiver form <u>well in advance</u> of when you wish to engage the Supplier.</p> <p>The waiver form can be accessed here: Waivers</p> <p>Waiver requests for the same Supplier and service after the first that results in the aggregate value of the waiver going over £100,000 will need to follow the waiver approval process in the band below.</p>	<p>Director Grade</p> <p>And</p> <p>Head of Procurement or Procurement Business Partners</p>
£100,000+	<p>Authority to award must be obtained prior to any supplier being given a contract, by completing a Procurement Gateway 2 award report.</p> <p>The Directorate Procurement Board must be consulted on the report before obtaining approval from the relevant Director exercising their delegated powers.</p> <p>Waiver requests for the same provider and service that results in the aggregate value of the waivers going over £500,000 will need to follow the waiver approval process in the band below.</p>	<p>Waiver between £100,000 to £249,999 must be approved by a Corporate Director</p> <p>Waiver between £250,000 to £499,999 must be approved by the Chief Executive OR Director of Finance with a Counter Signature from the Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Finance and Human Resources.</p>
500,000+	<p>Cabinet report seeking mandate to award through waiver.</p> <p>Directorate Procurement Board must be consulted prior to Cabinet submission for approval as a Key Decision.</p>	Cabinet

Where a waiver is necessary because of an unforeseeable emergency involving immediate risk to persons, property or serious disruption to Council services, a Corporate Director may authorise the recommendations of the waiver immediately.

Where a Procurement Gateway 2 award report documenting the exercise of delegated powers, or a Cabinet report is required this should subsequently be submitted to the relevant Procurement Board and/or Cabinet for noting. Decisions over the Key Decision threshold will need to be decided via the Leader acting as urgent Cabinet.

Waivers that do not comply with Public Contracts Regulations 2015 cannot be granted.

TABLE 3: KEY REQUIREMENTS

The Financial Threshold above which the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 must be applied are:

£214,904 (Inc VAT) Supplies and Services

£663,540 (Inc VAT) Light Touch Services

£5,372,609 (Inc VAT) Works and Concessions

*To find Local Businesses in Harrow, please follow this link to access the Harrow Business Directory. [Local Business Directory](#)

- No commitment must be given to a Supplier for Supplies or Services prior to a Purchase Order being raised. Please see 5.13 of these CPRs.
- Financial disaggregation of Estimated Procurement Value to avoid compliance with these and the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 is prohibited.
- Contracts, whether income or expenditure, should be captured on the Council's Contracts Register as required by the Transparency Code.
- Equality Impact Assessments must be carried out where there could be equalities implications.
- For the procurement of Care Spot Placements: People Services Directorate please see 6.8 of these CPRs.
- Contract awards under the rules of a Framework Agreement only require a Cabinet report or Gateway 2 report for approval of award recommendations.

CONTRACT EXTENSION OR VARIATION ACCEPTANCE

Below Financial Threshold:

- If no significant change in scope and costs are within 10% of Contract value extend with relevant Budget Holder approval
- If costs are above 10% of Contract Value - a waiver approval will be required.

Above Financial Threshold:

- If no significant change in scope and costs are within 10% of the Estimated Procurement Value - extend with approval of relevant Budget Holder & Head of Procurement and/or Procurement Business Partner.
- If costs are above 10% seek advice from Head of Procurement and/or Procurement Business Partner and Legal because there may be a legal requirement to advertise again to the market.

It is only possible to vary a contract awarded following a procurement fully regulated by the Public Contracts Regulations in limited circumstances (including where the variation or extension option was clearly set out in the original UK Notice and in the contract). Seek advice from Procurement and HB Public Law in these cases.

1 PREAMBLE

- 1.1 The Council's Contract Procedures Rules (CPRs) are designed to ensure that stewardship and probity are maintained within the Council and that Approved Officers obtain Best Value services and economic, social and environmental value from purchasing arrangements. The Council should follow the Best Value Statutory Guidance: Best value statutory guidance (publishing.service.gov.uk)
- 1.2 These Contract Procedure Rules should be read in conjunction with the Council's Financial Regulations which set out mandatory financial procedures to be followed. The Financial Regulations can be found [here](#)
- 1.3 These Contract Procedure Rules are designed to ensure compliance with the Council's Constitution, Council policies, Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and English law.
- 1.4 Tables 1 and 2 at the beginning of these CPRs set out in summary the key requirements that must be adhered to. However, you are strongly advised to read and understand the rest of this document for further guidance and to seek the advice and support of the Corporate Procurement team and HB Public Law as appropriate.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Council is responsible for spending substantial public funds and managing other assets and has a duty to demonstrate high standards of probity and stewardship in the day-to-day management of its affairs. To that end it is expected that our day-to-day duties are conducted consistent with the Seven Principles of Public Life¹
- 2.2 The Council purchases Supplies, Services and Works from the private, independent and third sector as well as from other public bodies. The process of identifying what and why we buy, how much we buy, from whom and at what price is extremely important and we have a duty to ensure this process is underpinned by the requirements of the Public Contracts Regulations which include equality of treatment, transparency and non-discrimination. Commissioning and Procurement decisions are amongst the most important the Council makes because we are spending public money and therefore are publicly accountable.
- 2.3 The Council has a responsibility to ensure that, as a minimum, Supplies, Works and Services are of good quality and are competitively but sustainably priced.
- 2.4 Effective, efficient, and economic use of resources in order to achieve Best Value is a statutory duty. In working to achieve Best Value, the Council must consider overall value, including economic, environmental, and social value. This requirement is embodied in the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 for Services Contracts above the Financial Threshold and in the Council's Social Value Policy for other Contracts.
- 2.5 The Council and its officers must always act responsibly and with utmost integrity and comply with statutory requirements. Council officers must always act transparently and avoid acting in an unfair and discriminatory way.

¹ [The Seven Principles of Public Life - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

- 2.6 If officers fail to comply with these Contract Procedure Rules, which lay down minimum mandatory requirements when engaging in procurement activity, disciplinary action may be considered.
- 2.7 Members and Council employees have a duty to report breaches of Contract Procedure Rules to an appropriate senior manager and the Head of Procurement. Noncompliance with the Contract Procedure Rules will be monitored by Directorate Procurement Boards.
- 2.8 Unless the context otherwise requires, terms used in these Contract Procedure Rules have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Interpretation section.

3 APPLICATION

- 3.1 The Contract Procedure Rules provide the governance structure within which the Council may procure Works, Supplies and Services. The aims of these Contract Procedure Rules are to ensure:
 - 3.1.1 Commitment to the principles of transparency, fairness, proportionality, and equal treatment within the procurement process.
 - 3.1.2 Value for Money and propriety in the spending of public money.
 - 3.1.3 That works, supplies and services are delivered effectively and efficiently without compromising the Council's ability to take strategic decisions.
 - 3.1.4 That the Council is not exposed to unnecessary legal, financial, or reputational risk and challenge arising from non-compliant procurement.
 - 3.1.5 Compliance with legislation, and relevant guidance including Procurement Policy Notes [PPNs] issued by the Cabinet Office.
 - 3.1.6 The delivery of the Council's vision and priorities:
 - The delivery of a well-run Council providing good value for money for all.
 - A Council that Puts Residents First
 - A Borough that is Clean and Safe
 - A Place where those in Need are Supported.
- 3.2 The Governance, Audit Risk Management and Standards Committee (GARMS) and the Constitution Review Working Group (CRWG) may, from time to time, recommend to Cabinet and Council changes to the financial thresholds set out in these Contract Procedure Rules.
- 3.3 The Director of Legal and Governance Services in consultation with the Head of Procurement is permitted to undertake an annual refresh to this document without having to seek CRWG and Cabinet approval. These include any changes required because of a change in law and all non-material changes. This must be done in consultation with the Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Finance and Human Resources to inform them of these changes including what impact they have on the Council.

- 3.4 The Head of Procurement in consultation with the Director of Finance shall maintain and issue the Contract Procedure Rules and the Procurement Strategy. The Contract Procedure Rules take precedence over the Procurement Strategy.

SCHEME OF DELEGATION, CONFIDENTIALITY AND DECLARATION OF INTEREST

- 3.5 All award of Contracts can only be approved by the Scheme of Delegation as stipulated in the Financial Regulations and set out in table 1 at the front of these CPRs. Awarding a contract without prior approval of the requisite approver as set out in these CPRs and the Financial Regulations is a disciplinary offence.
- 3.6 Where there is inconsistency between these Contract Procedure Rules and the Financial Regulations, the latter take precedence. Please report any inconsistencies in writing to the Director of Finance and the Head of Procurement.
- 3.7 All officers and members must take appropriate measures to protect confidentiality and effectively prevent, identify and remedy conflicts of interest arising in the conduct of procurement procedures to avoid any distortion of competition and to ensure equal treatment of all suppliers. If you are involved in a procurement project, you must ensure you sign a confidentiality agreement and a declaration of interest. A declaration does not automatically exclude anyone from the procurement process, it alerts the procurement leads and allows them to manage the procurement accordingly.

PRE-PROCUREMENT MARKET ENGAGEMENT

- 3.8 Where a Supplier or an undertaking related to a Supplier, has advised the Council, or has otherwise been involved in the preparation of the procurement procedure, the Council must take appropriate measures to ensure that competition is not distorted by the participation of that Supplier in the procurement.

➤ The Council must not:

give any one potential Supplier an advantage in bidding over another Supplier or engage in a way that disadvantages one particular Supplier or group of potential Suppliers.

as a result of the early market engagement, shape the procurement and the Council's requirements in favour of any one particular potential Supplier or solution.

- 3.9 Unrestricted and full direct online access free of charge to the procurement documents must be available from the date of the publication in Find a Tender Services of a UK Contract Notice or the date on which an invitation to confirm interest is sent.

4 SCOPE

- 4.1 The Contract Procedure Rules apply to all Procurement activities, including the spending of income or funding received by the Council from external sources.
- 4.2 Where the Council is entering into a Contract as an agent and/or in collaboration with another public body or organisation, these Contract Procedure Rules apply only in so far as they are consistent with the requirements of the organisation with whom we are collaborating. Where the Council is acting as principal the Contract Procedure Rules will take precedence.
- 4.3 The Scheme for Financing Schools 2013 requires schools under Council control to comply with these Contract Procedure Rules.
- 4.4 Framework Agreements that have been established by other Public Sector Bodies that are lawfully accessible to the Council should be used in accordance with the terms and conditions of the relevant Framework Agreement. Contracts awarded under the rules of a Framework Agreement only require a Cabinet report or Gateway 2 report for approval of award recommendations.
- 4.5 The following are out of scope of the Contract Procedure Rules:
 - 4.5.1 Social Care Residential and Nursing Care Spot Placement
(See section 6.8)
 - 4.5.2 Any purchase or sale of a property, interest in land, transaction in land and or lease transaction but this must be authorised in accordance with the requirements set out in the Constitution and, specifically, the Management of Asset, Property and Land Rules.
 - 4.5.3 Procurement of Services from other public bodies where it can be evidenced that the body is the only supplier of the Services.
 - 4.5.4 The awarding of grants. However, council officers should always ensure the principles of openness, fairness, non-discrimination, compliance with the public sector equality duty and Value for Money apply.

5 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Corporate Director with the support of the Head of Procurement is accountable for all Procurement activity in their directorate. Their duties are to ensure:

- 5.1 Compliance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, Financial Regulations, Contract Procedure Rules and the Procurement Strategy.
- 5.2 Compliance with the Local Government Transparency Code October 2015 issued by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.
- 5.3 Compliance with the Contract Procedure Rules for their Directorate's Procurement activity.

- 5.4 That no Procurement over the specified threshold commences without approval of a Procurement Gateway 1 report at the appropriate Procurement Board. A Cabinet report and authority is required for all Procurements over £500,000 or where the Procurement is defined as a Key Decision. (See Table 1)
- 5.5 That no commitment to award a Contract with a Supplier over the specified threshold is made without a Procurement Gateway 2 award report documenting the detail and outcome of procurement exercise having been considered at the appropriate Procurement Board and having been signed off under the Financial Scheme of Delegation. A Cabinet report and authority to award is required for all procurement over £500,000 or where the Procurement is defined as a Key Decision. (See Table 1)
- 5.6 A Gateway 2 award report does not need to be written where approval of an award is required from Cabinet. All Cabinet reports must be considered by the Directorate Procurement Boards as part of their journey to Cabinet for approval. However, where Cabinet has delegated authority to an officer to make an award decision then a Gateway 2 report will need to be written to document the procurement exercise for the delegated authority to approve.
- 5.7 That Works, Supplies and Services delivered or provided by Suppliers for the Council are approved and covered by suitable Council terms and conditions of Contract so that the responsibilities of each party are clear. If it is deemed necessary to sign up to third party terms and conditions of contract legal advice must be sought from HB Public Law on all legally binding Contracts entered by the Council. Best endeavours must be used to ensure that no Contract commences prior to the Terms and Conditions of Contract being signed and, where necessary, sealed. All master copies of Contracts are delivered to the Procurement Team.
- 5.8 That the ten calendar days Standstill Period between the Contract award decision and Contract signature is observed where required to do so. The 10-day period ends at midnight following the tenth day. If the 10th day is a weekend, then the period is extended to the next working day. Seek procurement and legal advice on this matter.
- 5.9 That all Key Decisions as defined in Article 13 of the Constitution are recorded on the Council's Forward Plan.

PURCHASE ORDERS

- 5.10 It is mandatory under section D42 of the Financial Regulations to raise Purchase Orders on the Corporate Financial System prior to procuring Works, Supplies and Services, unless an exemption is approved by the Director of Finance.
- 5.11 It is a serious breach of the Financial Regulations and CPRs to engage with suppliers and to order the provision of Goods, Works, or Services without the appropriate approvals to do so. No order must be made without raising a purchase order to the value of the purchase. The Purchase Order Number must also be referenced on the invoices.

5.12 If you raise a PO via 'describe what you need' and this is approved by a budget manager and procurement; and you then need to make an amendment, the amendment **MUST NOT** take the Net Value over £25k. If the value is taken over £25,000 it is a **serious breach** of the CPRs and Financial Regulations.

The Services exempt [when required to be] from this rule are:

- Sexual Health (GUM) Services
- Emergency and immediate spot placement of residential and nursing services
- Barrister Fees; Court Order Disbursements; and Law Library Encyclopaedia

5.13 All Contracts are awarded based on the *Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT)*. The MEAT shall be assessed from the Council's point of view, on the basis of the price or cost, using a cost-effectiveness approach, such as Life-Cycle Costing, and may include the best price-quality ratio, which shall be assessed on the basis of criteria, such as qualitative, environmental and/or social aspects, linked to the subject-matter of the Contract.

5.14 Identify, evaluate, record, and appropriately mitigate risk (e.g., provision of performance bond, parent company guarantee and appropriate payment provisions and termination clauses within Contracts).

5.15 Invitation to Tender documents clearly describe the Evaluation Criteria, sub criteria and weighting and that the tender evaluation is based strictly on the published criteria and weighting.

5.16 That Evaluation Criteria require the bidder to state how they will meet social value and environmental considerations (for example - employment, training, apprenticeships, use of SME's and local Suppliers). Please refer to the Social Value Policy for guidance.

5.17 The Council has declared a climate emergency and has committed to working towards becoming a carbon neutral organisation by 2030. All tendering must evaluate Suppliers on their ability to deliver greenhouse gas emission reductions, with a minimum 5% weighting of the total evaluation criteria. Consideration should be given to increasing this percentage in relation to Works, Goods and Services with a high carbon impact. Opportunities for carbon reduction should also be considered in lower value procurement that is not subject to formal tendering. If required, please seek the advice of the Head of Procurement and Head of Natural Resources and Climate.). Please refer to the Low Carbon Procurement Policy and Toolkit for guidance.

5.18 Immediate corrective action is taken in the event of a breach of the Contract Procedure Rules with the support of the Corporate Procurement Team and HB Public Law.

5.19 That their Directorate works closely with the Corporate Procurement Team to develop and deliver a programme of Procurement which includes commissioning strategies and intentions and that progress on compliant delivery is monitored and the procurement pipeline refreshed on an annual basis.

- 5.20 That the use of the FB60 method of payment is consistent with the guidance set out by the unsupported payments procedure note within the Financial Regulations.
- 5.21 That Contracts are not artificially underestimated or disaggregated into two or more separate Contracts where the intent is to avoid the application of the Contract Procedure Rules or The Public Contracts Regulations
- 5.22 That Suppliers explain the price or costs proposed in the tender where tenders appear to be abnormally low in relation to the Works, Supplies or Services. This is a legal requirement under The Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

6 AUTHORISATION

- 6.1 All Procurement over £100,000 requires the engagement of the Corporate Procurement Team and HB Public Law.
- 6.2 Finance, Procurement, Legal and, where appropriate Audit, ICT and Planning clearance must be obtained within reports before they are submitted to Procurement Boards or Cabinet.
- 6.3 A Procurement Gateway 1 report documenting the exercise of delegated powers or Cabinet report (see Table 1) for commencement of a Procurement activity must be considered by the respective Procurement Board and Cabinet.
- 6.4 A Procurement Gateway 2 report or Cabinet report (see Table 1) for contract award must be presented to and considered by the respective Procurement Board and Cabinet.
- 6.5 Any Procurement must be authorised in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation as published within the [Financial Regulations](#).
- 6.6 All Service Leads must consider whether it is appropriate to complete an [Equalities Impact Assessment](#).
- 6.7 A partnership arrangement must not be used as a means of avoiding the Contract Procedure Rules or The Public Contracts Regulations. All new partnership arrangements are required to be reported as required by section E7 of the Financial Regulations. This clause is not applicable to the award of grant payments.
- 6.8 Procurement of Social Care Spot Placements: People Services Directorate
 - 6.8.1 A general waiver is granted so that there is no need to tender such requirements acknowledging at all times that the Council has a duty to achieve Best Value in making such placements.
 - 6.8.2 The Corporate Director of People Services must have in place a process that requires the approval of a Head of Service or a more senior Council officer for all new placements where the annual value of a placement is likely to exceed £62,500.
 - 6.8.3 All new placements where the annual value is likely to exceed £125,000 require the approval of the relevant Statutory Director.

6.8.4 All new placements where the annual value exceeds £250,000 require the above approvals of the relevant Statutory Director and the Portfolio Holder with responsibility for the respective department must be consulted.

6.8.5 The Corporate Director of the Peoples Directorate must, as a minimum, annually review all care placements (existing and new) in order to continue to demonstrate Value for Money and Best Value. A report will be required to be presented to the Directorate Procurement Board annually on the completion of the review.

7 PROCUREMENT METHOD

7.1 Approved Officers must treat Suppliers equally and without discrimination and must act in a transparent and proportionate manner.

7.2 Before commencing a procurement procedure Approved Officers may conduct market consultations with a view to preparing the procurement and informing suppliers of the procurement plans and requirements, provided that it does not have the effect of distorting competition and does not result in a violation of the principles of non-discrimination and transparency. Officers may, for example, seek or accept advice from independent experts or authorities or from market participants. [See 3.8]

7.3 The default position in acquiring Works, Supplies and Services should always be through competition, that is through competitive tendering. Please refer to Table 1 of these Contract Procedure Rules to determine the Procurement process that should be used. The Procurement Team must be involved and engaged on the Procurement strategy/approach to be adopted for all purchases over £100,000. Similarly, the Economic Development Team must be consulted on promoting opportunities to local companies through Business Newsletters and Supplier Events.

7.4 The E-Procurement portal must be used for all procurement where the lifetime value is £100,000 and above and can be used for any procurement where the lifetime value of the Contract exceeds £50,000.

7.5 The use of Selection Questionnaires is only required for contract values above the Financial Threshold. Suitability Assessment Questions may be asked as appropriate for contract values below the Financial Threshold.

7.6 The Head of Procurement must approve accessing externally established Framework Agreements. Approval for subsequent call-offs from the approved Framework Agreements will be subject to the requirements of these Contract Procedure Rules and compliance with the rules for call-off set out in the Framework Agreement.

7.7 Officers may decide to award a Contract in the form of separate lots and may determine the size and subject matter of such lots. They must document the main reasons for their decision not to subdivide into lots in the gateway reports.

7.8 CONCESSION CONTRACTS

The Concession Contracts Regulations 2016 (CCR) apply to the award of Works Concession Contracts or Services Concession Contracts above £5,336,937 (Inc VAT)

Concession Contracts must meet the following requirements:

- The award of the contract involves the transfer to the concessionaire of an operating risk in exploiting the Works or Services encompassing demand or supply risk or both.
- The part of the risk transferred to the concessionaire involves real exposure to the vagaries of the market, such that any potential estimated loss incurred by the concessionaire is not merely nominal or negligible. The concessionaire shall be deemed to assume operating risk where, under normal operating conditions, it is not guaranteed to recoup the investments made or the costs incurred in operating the Works or the Services which are the subject-matter of the Concession Contract

The same general principles that apply to other procurement rules apply to the award of Concession Contracts. In particular, the Council must treat providers equally and without discrimination and must act in a transparent and proportionate manner.

Seek advice from Corporate Procurement Team and HB Public Law if you consider that you might want to award a Concession Contract

8 INFORMATION GOVERNANCE

- 8.1 When procuring, the responsible Council officer must ensure due diligence checks are carried out to provide sufficient guarantees that the Supplier's technical and organisational security measures for handling and protecting information and data are appropriate, suitable, and lawful. This is a requirement under Principle 7 of the Data Protection Act.
- 8.2 Evidence of these checks, copies of policies and guarantees provided by the Supplier must be retained by the Council officer responsible for management of the Contract and be regularly reviewed throughout the life of the Contract.
- 8.3 Contract managers must ensure appropriate security measures are applied to prevent the unauthorised or unlawful processing of personal data or accidental loss or destruction of, or damage to, personal data.

9 ACCEPTANCE

- 9.1 Awarding and entering into contractual arrangements for values above £50,000 is subject to:
- 9.1.1 Re confirmation of budgetary provision as initially identified and allocated prior to any procurement activity.
 - 9.1.2 Confirmation of acceptable financial status of the Supplier; and
 - 9.1.3 The Council's Terms and Conditions of Contract must be signed for values over £50,000 and sealed for all Contracts over £100,000 prior to the commencement of Contract. Legal input from HB Public Law should be sought on Contracts.
- 9.2 Awarding and entering contractual arrangements for values above £100,000 is subject to:
- 9.2.1 A Procurement Gateway 1, Procurement Gateway 2 or a Cabinet report considered by the relevant Procurement Board and approval by the Scheme of Delegation (as per sections F3/F4 of the Financial Regulations). See Table 1.
 - 9.2.2 The Contract being sealed by the Director of Legal & Governance Services.
- 9.3 Acceptance thresholds for Contract extensions and variations of all values are subject to further conditions as set out in Section 12 (Extensions and Variations) of these Contract Procedure Rules.

10 CONTRACTS SIGNING and SEALING

- 10.1 Every Contract or Contract novation must be in a form approved by the Director of Legal and Governance Services or delegated officer if its value exceeds £50,000 or where it is appropriate to seek such approval due to the nature of the Contract.
- 10.2 Contracts with an Estimated Procurement Value greater than £100,000 must be sealed on behalf of the Council unless the Director of Legal and Governance Services or delegated officer directs otherwise. Legal input from HB Public Law should be sought on such Contracts.
- 10.3 Where the Contract term is not fixed the Estimated Procurement Value is calculated by multiplying the monthly spend value by 48 in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015
- 10.4 In the case of Framework Agreements or Dynamic Purchasing Systems the Estimated Procurement Value is calculated to include the total estimated value, net of VAT, of all the individual contracts envisaged for the total term of the Framework Agreement or the Dynamic Purchasing System.

- 10.5 For Concession Contracts the estimated value will be the total turnover of the concessionaire generated over the duration of the contract (net of value added tax) in consideration for the works and services which are the object of the Concession Contract and the supplies incidental to such works and services.
- 10.6 Framework Agreements entered into with respect to the provision of social care to individual service users do not require sealing and need only to be signed by the respective Director or their nominated representative.
- 10.7 In the circumstances where a Court or Tribunal directs a particular placement, it must be sealed.
- 10.8 Where the Director of Legal and Governance Services or delegated officer considers it desirable that a Contract should be sealed other than as specified above, then such a Contract must be sealed.
- 10.9 All Contracts should have a clear start and end date, detail any extension options and full aggregate value of the Contract including extension period.

11 CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

- 11.1 Contract and Supplier Relationship Management is pivotal to the successful delivery of the Contracts that we award. A contract manager must be nominated for each Contract over £50,000 and is responsible for monitoring the performance of the Supplier and the Contract.
- 11.2 During the life of the Contract, Corporate and Divisional Directors and Lead Commissioners must ensure that the Council's approved processes for contract management, as set out in the Contract Management Guide and Procedures are followed.
- 11.3 For the avoidance of doubt, officers shall not issue instructions commissioning new Services and/or variations directly to any sub-contractor of a primary contractor of the Council. All communication for variations and change of scope must be directed to the primary contractor not their sub-contractors. Day to day communication relating to delivery of their responsibilities as sub-contractors is permitted.

12 EXTENSIONS and VARIATIONS

- 12.1 Contracts may only be extended without having to seek further Directorate Procurement Board approval if the provisions of 12.1.1 to 12.1.4 are met:
- 12.1.1 The original Contract was awarded following a Contract Procedure Rules compliant competitive tender or Quotation process and includes an option to extend without seeking further approval.
 - 12.1.2 The extension or variation is in accordance with the terms and conditions of the existing Contract. Input from HB Public Law and the Corporate Procurement Teams should be sought to confirm this is the case and to support the drafting of the extension and/or variation documents.

- 12.1.3 If the initial Contract was subject to the Find a Tender Services (FTS) tender procedure, that the extension option was declared within the UK Contract Notice and is contained in the Contract.
- 12.1.4 The Contract has not been extended beyond the approved extension period.
- 12.2 In the event that the provisions of 12.1.1 to 12.1.4 are not met then a Waiver must be sought in accordance with section 13 (Waivers) or alternatively a new Procurement must commence.
- 12.3 Regulation 72 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 permits an amendment, extension, or renewal of an existing Contract without triggering a new Procurement exercise in the following cases:
- 12.3.1 The original Contract includes a “clear, precise and unequivocal review clause”. The overall nature of the Contract must not be altered as a result of the change.
- 12.3.2 New Works, Services or Supplies need to be purchased from the Supplier and a change of Supplier cannot be realistically made for economic or technical reasons and would cause significant inconvenience or substantial duplication of the Council’s costs. This is subject to the provision that each change does not increase the Contract’s value by more than 50 per cent as a result.
- 12.3.3 Circumstances have arisen that the Council could not reasonably have foreseen and that require an amendment to the existing Contract. The Contract’s overall nature must not be altered, and the Contract’s value must not increase by more than 50 per cent because of any change.
- 12.3.4 A new Supplier is required to replace the Supplier originally party to the Contract, either because this is the result of corporate restructuring, including takeover, merger, acquisition or insolvency leading to a universal or partial succession of the original Supplier, or because this change was envisaged in a review clause in the original Contract. This provision cannot be relied on if the Supplier is being replaced for a different reason.
- 12.3.5 The value of the modification is both below the Financial Threshold and is less than 10 per cent of the initial Contract value (where the Contract is for Supplies or Services) or less than 15 per cent of the initial Contract value, in the case of a Works Contract. More than one change can be made under this provision provided the cumulative value of the modifications do not exceed the Financial Threshold.
- 12.3.6 The proposed modifications are insubstantial. This does not include any modifications that result in any of the following:
- the Contract would become materially different.
 - the scope of the Contract would extend considerably.

- the outcome of the initial Procurement procedure would have been different had the modification been implemented at that time. For example, other tenders would have been accepted or other candidates would have been admitted.
- the economic balance would shift in favour of the Supplier; or
- a new Supplier would replace the original Supplier in a circumstance not provided for in d) above.

12.4 Officers must consult the Procurement team and HB Public Law to confirm if any of the circumstances set out in section 12.3 above apply, permitting a Contract amendment, extension or renewal and must also comply with the Authorisation and Acceptance Thresholds set out in in Table 1

A Contract Variation Notice needs to be sent to Find a Tender Service in the case of Contract variations permitted and made in accordance with paragraphs 12.3.1 and 12.3.2.

12.5 In the event that the provisions of 12.3 are not met then a Waiver must be sought in accordance with section 13 (Waivers) or alternatively a new Procurement must commence.

13 WAIVERS

13.1 Circumstances may arise where permission is required to waive one or more of the Contract Procedure Rules. Waivers are reserved for **exceptional circumstances** and will only be approved where good and sufficient reason has been demonstrated.

13.2 A Waiver will not be granted simply on the grounds of convenience or because of inadequate forward planning. The Council can only waive the rules established by the Council – the Council cannot waive UK law or the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

13.3 All Waivers must be approved as per Table 2: Waiver Approval Process.

13.4 Waivers to any of the Council's rules must be sought in advance of any contractual agreement, order placement, use of Works, Services or purchase of Supplies. Any waiver requests that are submitted in a timeframe that does not allow for an alternative route to be taken will be deemed to be non-compliant and a breach of the CPRs

13.5 Procurement of Social Care Spot Placements – (i.e., individual placements that fall outside of any block contracting arrangements) A general Waiver is granted so that there is no need to tender such requirements acknowledging at all times that the Council has a duty to achieve Best Value in making such placements. (Please refer to 6.8 of these CPRs)

13.6 Any Waiver, wherever possible, should not be more than one year in duration, unless it can be demonstrated that any longer period is in the best interest of the Council.

13.7 Waiver requests for the same Supplier and service after the first that results in the aggregate value of the waivers going over £100,000 there is a requirement to follow the waiver approval process for the next band as set out in table 2

13.8 Waiver requests for the same Supplier and service that results in the aggregate value of the waivers going over the £500,000 will need to follow the waiver approval process for the next band as set out in table 2

13.9 Circumstances under which a Waiver can be considered are:

13.9.1 **Sole Supplier:** It can be proven that there is only one Supplier who can deliver the Supplies or Services. (It is considered better practice to issue a tender to evidence that there is only one Supplier.)

13.9.2 **Demonstrable Best Interest:** It can be demonstrated that it is in the Council's best interest, and this is clearly demonstrated in the Waiver report.

13.9.3 **Emergency:** There is a clear need to provide a service or a product immediately in the instance of a sudden unforeseen crisis; the immediate risk is to health, life, property or environment.

13.9.4 **Service Imperative:** Demonstrable circumstance that is exceptional.

13.9.5 **Extension as a Waiver:** Where an extension to a Contract is being sought but it is not possible under the current terms and conditions of the Contract.

14 PROCUREMENT GOVERNANCE: CABINET AND MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

14.1 All Cabinet reports seeking approval to commence a procurement for the acquisition of Works, Goods or Services must be accompanied by the tender documents and a recommendation seeking approval of the tender documents.

14.2 The development of the tender documents prior to seeking approval by Cabinet must be done in close engagement and consultation with the portfolio holder for the service and any other portfolio holder that is considered to have an interest in the outcome of the tendering exercise.

14.3 Where approval is being sought from Cabinet for a programme of procurement, delegated authority may be given by Cabinet to the Corporate Director in consultation with the Director of Finance (S151 Officer) and the Portfolio Holder responsible for the programme to commence each procurement and award all contracts under the programme. All commencement and award approvals must follow the procurement gateway process.

14.4 Following Cabinet approval to commence procurement as set out above, the procurement process must commence no later than eight weeks after the approval has been granted unless otherwise approved by Cabinet

Definitions and Interpretations

Unless the context otherwise requires, terms used in these Contract Procedure Rules have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Interpretation section.

Term	
Acceptance	The authorisation to enter a Contract with a particular Supplier(s) on the terms, conditions and at the price(s) as set out in the Contract documents.
Approved Officer	The Corporate Director, Divisional Director, Service Lead or Lead Commissioning Officer who has responsibility for all Contracts tendered and let by their Directorate including Contract monitoring and management once the Contract is in place.
Authorisation	The approval required to enable any Procurement to commence or any Contract to be awarded.
Best Value	The duty on local authorities to secure continuous improvement in the way in which functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness as implemented by the Council.
Budget	All the financial resources allocated to different services and projects.
Cabinet	The Councillors who, together with the leader, form the executive
Cabinet Report	A report that is required to be submitted to Cabinet.
Chief Executive	The most senior officer, with overall responsibility for the management and operation of the Council.
Commercial and Procurement Strategy	The Council's Commercial and Procurement Strategy available Here
Competitive Tendering	Awarding of Contracts by the process of inviting competing tenders.
Concession Contract	a services concession contract or a works concession contract as defined in The Concession Contracts Regulations 2016. They are contracts for pecuniary interest which consist either solely in the right to exploit the services or works that are the subject of the contract or in that right together with payment.

Term	
Constitution	The document setting out how the Council operates, how decisions are made and all the procedures that have to be followed.
Contract	A formal written agreement, which is enforceable by law between the Council and the provider of any Supplies, Services or Works.
Contract Management Procedures	The Council's Contract management procedures which can be found Here
Contract Procedure Rules (CPRs)	The rules required in accordance with Section 135 of the Local Government Act 1972
Contract Finder	means a web-based portal provided by or on behalf of the Cabinet Office for the publication of information about contracts awarded. Contract Finder
Contracts Register	Record of Council Contracts maintained by the Head of Procurement.
Corporate Director	The officer in charge of a Council Directorate.
Corporate Procurement Team	The Team that provides expert procurement support and guidance.
Director of Finance	Also known as the "Section 151 Officer". The Officer responsible for the administration of the financial affairs of the Council.
Directorate Procurement Board	The group of officers who meet regularly in each Directorate to consider procurement business within their directorates and consider all procurement gateway reports (£100,000 to £499,999) and Cabinet Reports for procurements over £500,000 and all Key Decisions.
Due Diligence	A process of acquiring objective and reliable information, generally on a person or a company, prior to making any decisions. A systematic research effort, which is used to gather the critical facts and descriptive information which are most relevant to the making of an informed decision on a matter of importance.
Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS)	A DPS is appropriate for commonly used purchases the characteristics of which, as generally available on the market, meet the Council's requirements. The rules for using it are set out in regulation 34 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

Term	Definition/Interpretation
Electronic Procurement Portal	The Council's electronic system for conducting procurement activity.
Estimated Procurement Value	The value of a procurement based on the total amount payable, net of VAT, as estimated by the Council, including any form of option and any renewals of the Contracts as explicitly set out in the procurement documents
Evaluation Criteria	<p>The publishing of detailed objectively quantifiable award criteria and sub criteria linked to the subject matter of the contract together with their weighting (or ranking where weighting is not possible for demonstrable reasons) and the method by which you will evaluate them in the contract documents. They may include but are not limited to:</p> <p>(a) quality, including technical merit, aesthetic and functional characteristics, accessibility, design for all users, social, environmental and innovative characteristics and trading and its conditions.</p> <p>(b) organizations, qualification and experience of staff assigned to performing the contract, where the quality of the staff assigned can have a significant impact on the level of performance of the contract; or</p> <p>(c) after-sales service and technical assistance, delivery conditions such as delivery date, delivery process and delivery period or period of completion.</p>
Executive	The Leader and the Cabinet; responsible for carrying out almost all the council's functions.
Financial Regulations	The Financial Regulations as approved by the full Council and set out in the constitution.
Financial Threshold	<p>The Financial Threshold above which the Public Contracts Regulations must be applied.</p> <p>The UK reviews this financial threshold bi-annually. From 1st January 2024 the value is:</p> <p>£214,904 (Inc VAT) Supplies and Services £663,540 (Inc VAT) Light Touch Services £5,372,609 (Inc VAT) Works and Concessions</p>

Term	
Forward Plan	A schedule of the Key Decisions the Executive expects to take over the next 4 months.
Framework Agreement	An agreement between one or more contracting authorities and one or more economic operators, the purpose of which is to establish the terms governing contracts to be awarded during a given period, in particular with regard to price and, where appropriate, the quantity envisaged.
Frequently Asked Questions	Answers and further guidance developed by the procurement team to the most asked questions related to the procurement process. The FAQ document is here
HB Public Law	The legal team within the council.
Invitation to Tender Documents	The documents inviting Suppliers to tender, including the Terms and Conditions of Contract; Service Specification; Method Statement Questions; Pricing Document; Information to Tenderers including clear Evaluation Criteria and sub criteria.
Life-Cycle Costing	Covers part or all the following costs over the life cycle of a product, service or works: (a) costs, borne by the Council or other users, such as: (i) costs relating to acquisition, (ii) costs of use, such as consumption of energy and other resources, (iii) maintenance costs, and (iv) end of life costs, such as collection and recycling costs. (b) costs imputed to environmental externalities linked to the product, service or works during its life cycle, provided their monetary value can be determined and verified. These costs may include the cost of emissions of greenhouse gases and of other pollutant emissions and other climate change mitigation costs
Light Touch Regime Services	The rules and procedures for procuring Social and other Specific Services. Those procedures must ensure compliance with the principles of transparency and equal treatment of Suppliers, publication of a Contract Notice and a Contract Award Notice.

Term	Definition/Interpretation
Local Business	Organisations (private, voluntary and or community led) within Harrow borough boundary who can provide works, goods and services to the Council.
Key Decision	<p>A decision by the Executive which is likely to:</p> <p>(i) result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or</p> <p>(ii) be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area of two or more wards of the Borough.</p> <p>(iii) A decision is significant for the purposes of (i) above if it involves expenditure or the making of savings of an amount in excess of £1m for capital expenditure or £500,000 for revenue expenditure or, where expenditure or savings are less than the amounts specified above, they constitute more than 50% of the budget attributable to the service in question.</p>
Members	The elected representatives of the Council.
Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT)	<p>Assessment of the tenders received using a variety of objective and non-discriminatory criteria linked to the subject matter of the contract to identify the tender which is best value for money.</p> <p>You cannot use the criteria for any purpose other than identifying the most economically advantageous tender from the point of view of the procurer. It allows you to assess a number of factors including the technical aspects, social value, sustainability, and price of a tender and to rank the tenders in the competition.</p>
Portfolio Holder	Member of Cabinet responsible for ensuring the effective management and delivery of Executive functions. Each Portfolio Holder has specific areas of responsibility.

Term	Definition
Procurement	<p>The acquisition by means of a public contract of works, supplies or services by one or more public bodies from Suppliers chosen by those public bodies, whether or not the Works, Supplies or Services are intended for a public purpose.</p> <p>This includes any activity which includes the identification of need, options appraisal and the execution of a competitive selection process, Quotation or tendering process, commercial activities and entering into Contracts.</p>
Procurement Card	A Corporate Purchasing Card for the purchase of low value supplies, works or services. To be used in compliance with the Procurement Card Policy.
Procurement Gateway 1	The report required to be written and presented for consideration to the respective procurement board and approved prior to commencing any procurement or tendering activity.
Procurement Gateway 2	The report required to be written and presented for consideration to the respective procurement board and then signed off by the scheme of delegation to seek authority to award a contract, extend a contract or seek a waiver to these CPRs.
Procurement Plan	Compiled by the Procurement Team setting out planned annual procurement pipelines across each directorate.
Public Contracts Regulations 2015	The main body of law that regulates the purchasing by Public Sector Bodies and certain utility sector bodies of contracts for goods, works or services. In England these are the Public Contracts Regulations 2015
Public Sector Bodies	Including, but not limited to the West London Alliance, London Councils, ESPO, YPO, Crown Commercial Services, the EFA, Greater London Authority and Transport for London

Term	Definition/Interpretation
Purchase Order	The mandatory order created within the D365 System for Goods, Works or Services.
Quotation	A priced bid for the provision of supplies, a service, or supply of works
Scheme of Delegation	A formal document recording the agreed handing down of statutory (where allowed) and other responsibilities by the Council to the Cabinet, Cabinet Members, Committees, Panels and Officers.
Services	Means the services to be provided as detailed in the Specification and shall, where the context so admits, include any materials, articles or supplies to be supplied there under.
Selection Questionnaire (SQ)	The questionnaire usually sent to Suppliers who express an interest in tendering for a Contract. The SQ seeks details and information about a Suppliers' technical, financial, and organisational ability to
Service Specification	The document usually attached as a schedule to the terms and conditions of Contract specifying in detail the Council's precise requirements relating to the purchase of Supplies, Services or Works.
Social and other Specific Services	Those social and other specific services set out at Schedule 3 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 to be awarded in accordance with Section 7 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015
Social Care Spot Placement	Individual placements that fall outside of any block contracting arrangements
Standstill Period	<p>The standstill period is a 10 day pause between contract award decision and the formal award of the Contract. The standstill is a legal requirement which the Council must comply with. It applies to all procurements covered by the full scope of the Financial Thresholds.</p> <p>The period allows unsuccessful bidders to obtain more information on the award of the contract. Unsuccessful bidders can take appropriate action if they believe they have been treated unfairly. The period is also known as the 'Alcatel Period'. Alcatel was the name of the European case which brought about the change in the law.</p>

Term	
Suitability Assessment Question	Means a question which relates to information or evidence which the Council requires for the purpose of assessing whether candidates meet requirements or minimum standards of suitability, capability, legal status or financial standing
Supplies	Means the supplies to be provided as detailed in the specification.
Supplier	A Supplier or potential Supplier of Works, Supplies or Services to the Council.
Terms and Conditions of Contract	A document approved by HB Public Law that sets out the relationship between the Council and a third party.
Transparency Code	The Local Government Transparency Code setting out the minimum data that local authorities should be publishing, the frequency it should be published and how.
TUPE (Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006 No.246)) as amended from time to time.	Subject to certain conditions, these regulations apply where responsibility for the delivery of works or services for the authority is transferred from one organisation (e.g. private contractor, local authority in-house team) to another (e.g. following a contracting out or competitive tendering process) and where the individuals involved in carrying out the work are transferred to the new employer. These regulations seek to protect the rights of employees in such transfers, enabling them to enjoy the same terms and conditions, with continuity of employment, as existed with their former employer.
UK Notice	Notice posted on the Find a Tender Service (FTS). This includes a Prior Information Notice (PIN), a Contract Notice or a Contract Award Notice.
Value for Money	the optimum combination of Life Cycle Costing and quality (or fitness for purpose) to meet the Council's requirements
Waiver	An exception from the strict compliance with Contract Procedure Rules granted in accordance with the relevant section within these CPRs (section 13)
Works	Means the work or works to be provided as detailed in the service specification, including building, engineering and capital works

There are number of valuable links in the above Contract Procedure Rules document, if any of them fail to open please try the generic link to the procurement Intranet Page: Procurement (sharepoint.com)