

Title of Report:	Direct Award Contracts (DAC)
Committee Report Submitted To:	Audit Committee
Date of Meeting:	9 June 2021
For Decision or For Information	For Information

Linkage to Council Strategy (2019-23)	
Strategic Theme	Leader and Champion
Outcome	Provide Civic Leadership
Lead Officer	Chief Finance Officer

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	Performance management
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES/NO
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	
Staffing Costs	

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.1 Background

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council approved an updated Procurement Policy in March 2021.

1.2 Detail

The new policy addresses a number of recommendations that had been made in reference to the old policy. One such recommendation was the inclusion of guidance around single tender actions or Direct Award Contracts (DAC). The policy gives guidance and sets out a procedure to follow in such circumstances.

1.3 DAC Process

In all cases where council staff are considering the use of the award of a contract without competition, they must seek guidance from the procurement officer before proceeding as such an approach will be easily challenged in the courts unless rigorously supported by appropriate documentation and completed in accordance with the legislative requirements.

Authorisation required

When a member of council staff has spoken with the procurement officer - and discussed all the alternative options available - and wishes to proceed with the award of a contract without competition the staff member should seek approval of their approach from the Senior Management Team before seeking Council approval to award.

A detailed report should be completed by the member of staff requesting the contract award explaining their rationale and the consideration given to all alternative options in conjunction with discussions between the staff member and the procurement officer. The template provided in **Annexe 6 – Direct Award Contract Form** should be fully completed by the member of staff requesting the contract award.

Once completed, this document will require authorisation from the Senior Management Team before proceeding to the relevant committee for consideration. Upon agreement from the Council the staff member should contact the procurement officer to assist with the contract award to the chosen supplier.

1.4 DAC Approvals

The purpose of this short report is to inform members of those DAC's which have been approved since 1 January 2021 and these are listed below, it should be noted that none of these required Council approval at the point of award:

Table 1 – Direct Award Contracts since 1 January 2021

Department	Estimated Value	Awarded to	Date of Award	Description
Community and Culture	£4,000	Community Places 2 Downshire Place, Belfast, BT2 7JQ	21 January 2021	Mosside village collaboration project – Community Development Action Strategy and development of strategic outline case for Mosside Community Centre
Policing and Community Safety Partnership	£3,366	People Safe Emerald House East Street Epsom Surrey KT17 1HS	9 March 2021	To provide Domestic abuse victims who are high risk of harm/death with PSNI 999 linked panic alarms to ensure they are safe. (10 units)
Policing and Community Safety Partnership	£5,000	Causeway Older Active Team	9 March 2021	Safer Home Programme through a variety of crime deterrent and prevention measures