

Meeting: COUNCIL

Agenda Item:

14

Portfolio Area: Resources

Date: 7 OCTOBER 2015

REVISION TO CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS

NON-KEY DECISION

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1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To update Members on the revision to the Council's Contract Standing Orders.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the revisions to Contract Standing Orders be approved.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Contract Standing Orders (CSO's) were last updated in January 2014 and this report updates Members on the proposed changes to them. Changes have been made to CSO's to reflect Internal Audit Report recommendations and the changes required by the implementation of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.
- 3.2 The Council's Contract Standing Orders form an essential part of the control framework within which the Council operates and are part of the Council's Constitution. The CSO's are designed to ensure that contracts of all values are awarded in a fair and transparent manner and that they council is fulfilling its legal obligations in this regard.
- 3.3 This report was considered by the Audit Committee at its meeting on 1 September 2015 and that Committee agreed that the revisions be recommended to Council.

4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED COURSE OF ACTIONS AND OTHER OPTIONS

- 4.1 The Contract Standing Orders have been updated as at September 2015 and the major changes are detailed in Appendix B attached to this report, the main changes relate to:

- Changes to the Council's senior management structure
- Updates regarding the new Public Procurement Regulations 2015 (PCR2015)
- Updates regarding general changes and clarifications around working practices

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial Implications

None

5.2 Legal Implications

The updated Contract Standing orders include any legal implications within the regulations.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- BD1 - Current Contract Standing Orders
<http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/content/committees/96416/Pt4G-Contract-Standing-Orders-January-2014.pdf>

APPENDICES

- Appendix A – Contract Standing Orders V6 September 2015
- Appendix B - Details of main changes to Contract Standing Orders for 2015.