



18th October 2019

Ref: PAC32-I-1579

Ms. Eilis Fallon
Committee Secretariat
Committee of Public Accounts
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Dear Eilis

Further to your letter of 7th October, I enclose the information note as requested with regard to the €1.8 million of non-compliant procurement as set out in our 2016 audited accounts.

Should you require any further information or clarifications on the attached please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Dr. Deirdre Keyes
Chief Executive

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**Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna
Chill Dara agus Chill Mhantáin**
An Dr Deirdre Nic Aodha
Príomhfhéidhmeannach

**Kildare and Wicklow
Education and Training Board**
Dr. Deirdre Keyes
Chief Executive

Non Compliant Procurement

Transport - Bus Companies	506,315
School Books	643,538
Recruitment	92,986
IT	177,836
Items purchased at auction	170,484
Cleaning Services	65,955
Catering Services	128,165
	1,785,279

Transport - Bus Companies

Amounts paid to Individual suppliers
€2,680.00
€12,580.00
€1,800.00
€4,630.00
€18,959.00
€56,750.00
€10,975.00
€4,580.00
€1,150.00
€20,470.00
€13,268.00
€20,540.00
€5,992.04
€500.00
€6,215.00
€30,176.00
€5,170.00
€2,026.30
€2,490.00
€12,530.00
€3,560.00
€3,450.00
€53,170.00
€670.00
€6,916.00
€44,070.00
€13,959.00
€7,225.00
€38,625.00
€2,045.00
€20,590.00
€12,814.00
€11,140.00
€680.00
€2,740.00
€13,985.00

€1,260.00	
€14,850.00	
€560.00	
€19,115.00	
€1,390.00	
€20.00	
€506,315.34	Total

Note

42 Transport companies - as per above- were utilised in 2016. Schools and Centres costed journeys locally however in the aggregate KWETB were non compliant. In 2016 there was no national OGP framework for the procurement of buses. ETBI are currently tendering nationally for transport and KWETB will avail of that tender.

School Books - Hard copy

Amounts paid to individual companies	
€4,901.56	
€441.90	
€1,008.23	
€6,009.61	
€4,167.45	
€4,087.22	
€2,257.35	
€178,166.20	
€14,755.23	
€36,383.41	
€8,916.70	
€110,228.14	
€71,876.59	
€4,854.80	
€4,042.17	
€689.55	
€44,986.49	
€1,350.00	
€73,532.27	
€75.42	
€15,762.20	
€46,278.14	
€899.90	
€4,705.88	
€3,161.10	
€643,537.51	Total

Note

Purchases were made locally through 25 school book companies in 2016. Schools and Centres sought value for money at local level however in the aggregate KWETB were non compliant. There was no OGP framework for the procurement of school books in 2016. The OGP ran a national tender for school books during 2017. KWETB have used this framework and ran a mini competition to appoint a single supplier of school books in 2018.

Recruitment Agencies

Amounts paid to individual companies	
	€74,074
	€18,912
	€92,986

Total

Note

Because of moratorium on recruitment since 2009 staff could only be replaced using recruitment agencies. In 2012 a small number of staff were temporarily recruited. The numbers of staff recruited grew and through aggregation of costs the need for a tendering competition became apparent. A tendering competition commenced in 2018 and is now in place.

IT

Amounts paid to individual companies	
	€63,539
	€114,297
	€177,836

Total

Note

An ICT Managed Service Contract and On-site Technical Support Contract were put in place following a tender process in 2012/13. These contracts expired in 2016, were not renewed and instead rolled over due to the expectation of a sectoral solution, development of a comprehensive and integrated KWETB ICT Strategy, critical need to ensure continuity of vital services in our schools and centres, and IT resource challenges in KWETB. KWETB currently have developed an ICT Strategy and have progressed the development of an RFT for these services. We expect to be compliant by Q1 2020

Items Purchased at Auction

Amounts paid to individual companies	
	€170,484

Note:

Items were purchased at seven auctions including catering equipment - €24k of which we estimate 20% was used. racking and pallets - €45k of which we estimate 15 to 20% was used and computers - 85k which were all used. Office furniture and Garden equipment - €16.5k. Some items of catering equipment, racking and furniture remain in storage and KWETB are currently investigating ways of disposing of same. The practice of purchasing goods at auction was the sole practice of the then CE and no longer occurs in KWETB.

Cleaning Services

Amounts paid to individual companies	
	€65,955

Note

Cleaning Services tender awarded in 2014. Not all existing schools/centres moved to new contract for all services. Two schools were non compliant. This contract has now concluded and we are engaging with the schools/centres involved with a view to run a new tender.

Catering Services

Amounts paid to individual companies

€128,165

Note

A previous tendering process took place in the school several years previously which had expired however the service continued. This was regularised by tender process and contract now in place since 20/11/2017.