

**An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta**
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage



Ms Sarah Cremin
Committee Secretariat
Committee of Public Accounts
Leinster House
Dublin 2

23 November 2021

Ref: S0622 PAC33

Dear Ms Cremin

I refer to your letter dated 15 November 2021 requesting details of contracts that were non-compliant with procurement guidelines as noted in Vote 34, DHLGH Appropriation Account 2020.

The Department ensures that there is an appropriate focus on good practice in purchasing and that procedures are in place to ensure compliance with all relevant procurement guidelines. The Department complied with the guidelines with the exception of three contracts (in excess of €25,000) totaling €642,372 (ex VAT).

Please find attached at Appendix 1 the Department's response to the Committee's request for information on these contracts.

If you have any questions on the attached please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Janet Jacobs
Assistant Principal
Departmental Finance Unit



Appendix 1

Goods/Services Suppliers	Expenditure in 2020	Reason for non-Compliance
ICT Telephony Services Contract	€114,858 (ex VAT)	The contract was originally awarded with a competitive process which was rolled over pending the completion of a procurement process
A one year ICT Maintenance and support contract	€27,514 (ex VAT)	Awarded without a competitive process on the basis of urgency/ expediency to maintain the support for the Hyperscale Appliances and the licence subscription to the Commvault backup system.
A contract for ecological, database and GIS support contractors	€500,000 (ex VAT)	The contract was originally awarded with a competitive process which was rolled over pending completion of a review of all the Heritage Division information systems (following the transfer of Heritage Division to this Department) which is needed to inform the next cycle of procurement.