



R0926 PAC33

25 November 2021

Ms. Sarah Cremin
Secretariat of Public Accounts Committee
Leinster House
Dublin 2
Email: pac@oireachtas.ie

Ref: SO621 PAC33

A Chara

I refer to your letter of 15 November 2021 in relation to non-compliant procurement across Vote 33 Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media during 2020. As per the 2020 Appropriation Account for the Department, there were 6 contracts in 2020 which were considered non-compliant with public procurement procedures and the details of these contracts, the amounts expended and the reasons for non-compliance are outlined in the table hereunder as requested.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katherine Licken".

Katherine Licken
Secretary General

No.	Supplier	Subject of Contract/Purchase	Value (€)	Reason for not having a Competitive Process
1.	All Pro	Cleaning services Government Offices Killarney	42,974	<p>In 2020, the Department was not in a position to retender this contract and continued to engage the services of All Pro Cleaning Services on foot of a previously competitively procured contract.</p> <p>The preparation of a new tender was impacted by changes to OGP Framework; Covid-19 and the significant restructuring of the Department. Arrangements for the issue of a tender for cleaning services across all Departmental locations under the new OGP Framework have now been completed. A new contract covering all Department locations will be put in place for 2022.</p>
2.	Eir	Fixed line telephony services	47,326	<p>The initiation of a new contract for fixed line telephony in 2020 was delayed by the impact of COVID-19 and the significant restructuring of the Department during the latter half of the year. The Department has reviewed its fixed line telephony requirements and in the absence of a relevant OGP framework, will shortly initiate a RFT with a view to having a new contract in place for 2022.</p>
3.	Bidvest Noonan	Cleaning services at a number of Departmental sites	50,655	<p>In 2020, the Department was not in a position to retender this contract and continued to engage the services of All Pro Cleaning Services on foot of a previously competitively procured contract.</p> <p>The preparation of a new tender was impacted by changes to OGP Framework; Covid-19 and the significant restructuring of the Department. Arrangements for the issue of a tender for cleaning services across all Departmental locations under the new OGP Framework have now been completed. A new contract covering all Department locations will be put in place for 2022.</p>

4.	ECO Group	Cleaning services at the National Archives of Ireland (NAI)	167,314	<p>The NAI continued to engage the services of ECO Group on foot of a previously competitively procured contract.</p> <p>A procurement manager has been appointed at the NAI and a competitive tendering process took place in June of this year. It is anticipated that a contract will be awarded to the preferred tenderer before month end.</p>
5.	Massey & King	Genealogical services at the National Archives of Ireland (NAI)	155,184	<p>The NAI continued to engage the services of Massey& King on foot of a previously competitively procured contract.</p> <p>A procurement manager has been appointed at the NAI and following a competitive tendering process, a new Genealogical Services Contract was put in place in June 2021.</p>
6.	Secureway at Risk Security	Security services at the National Archives of Ireland (NAI)	114,628	<p>The NAI continued to engage the services of Secureway on foot of a previously competitively procured contract.</p> <p>A procurement manager has been appointed at the NAI and the specifications for the new contract have been finalised. The NAI are engaging with the OGP in terms of their framework for security services and a new contract will be in place for 2022.</p>