

Michael J. Keane

Tel +353 61 204994

Email Michael.Keane@mic.ul.ie

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

R0924 PAC33

25th November 2021

Dear Ms Cremin,

RE: Mary Immaculate College

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st Aug 2020 – Public Procurement Compliance

I refer to your letter dated 15th November 2021 (Ref. SO603 PAC33) addressed to Prof Eugene Wall, President of Mary Immaculate College. Prof Wall has asked me to respond on this matter.

I note the Committee has requested an information note in tabular form regarding non-compliant expenditures on goods and services by this College.

I now attach a table that details a list of the non-compliant services and related amounts. Individual supplier and company names have been omitted from this list.

You will see 2 large suppliers, in the areas of security services for our campuses, and catering services for students and staff, that were non-compliant at the time and this was due to a delay in agreeing a formal specification ahead of going to tender on the open market. These specifications had a certain level of complexity to them owing to the large scale of services being procured. Both of these areas have since been publicly tendered and a supplier has been compliantly put in place in each case for over a year at this point.

There were 6 cases of suppliers not publicly procured owing to pressure on internal staffing resources to get to these particular procurement projects. Of the € 229,037 non-compliant spend here – approx. € 100,000 worth has since been publicly procured and is now compliant.

You will also see 31 suppliers out of a total of 39 that related to spend levels below the threshold required to go to public tender. These were deemed of a lesser priority owing to the financial materiality levels involved and were part of a list being worked through for procurement purposes.

The College is actively engaged in working towards full compliance with Public Procurement regulations and in this regard – has engaged the services of external professional procurement advisors and also avails of frameworks as made available and suitable to our

requirements, by the Office of Government Procurement (OGP) and the Education Procurement Service (EPS).

I trust the Committee finds these details useful and if further information is required – please contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,



Michael Keane

Mary Immaculate College 2019/20: Procurement Disclosure - Detail

Statement of Governance & Internal Control Summary Note

Rounded to: 680,000

		Spend	%		
	727 Total procured suppliers (Excl Vat)	7,427,976.00			
	39 Non-Compliant (Excl VAT) - detailed below	673,875.47	9.07%	€	680,000
	Excl VAT				
	2 suppliers delay in completing tender				
1	Security Services	129,233.79			
2	Catering Services	179,776.60			
		309,010.39	4.16%	€	310,000
	6 suppliers > €25k spend				
1	Media Services	64,363.51			
2	Printing Services	42,995.09			
3	Waste Disposal Services	36,198.04			
4	Printing Services	29,203.68			
5	Graphic Design Services	27,229.13			
6	Security Services	29,048.26			
		229,037.72	3.08%	€	230,000
	31 suppliers < €25k spend				
1	Audio Visual services	21,275.19			
2	Cleaning Supplies	11,920.29			
3	Training	14,425.00			
4	Digital messaging service	10,502.52			
5	Legal services	6,556.77			
6	Waste disposal	7,120.68			
7	Procurement Services	6,023.18			
8	Office Supplies	7,717.47			
9	Mechanical service/supplies	5,501.98			
10	Hotel services	6,163.13			
11	Engineering Systems	6,080.95			
12	School supplies	3,107.27			
13	Leasing	2,984.27			
14	Library supplies	3,646.72			
15	Data Storage	2,539.81			
16	Photography	2,528.76			
17	Hotel services	2,617.49			
18	Software	2,317.44			
19	Education Network service	2,890.50			
20	Environmental	1,953.73			
21	Video services	1,704.78			
22	Postage	901.70			
23	Legal services	899.75			
24	Pharmacy	900.00			
25	Museum	685.68			
26	Taxis	836.00			
27	Postage	740.00			
28	Postage	384.94			
29	Library supplies	450.56			
30	Mechanical supplies	300.81			
31	Book supplies	150.00			
		135,827.36	1.83%	€	140,000

39	Total:	€	673,875.47	€	680,000
-----------	---------------	---	------------	---	---------