



13 January 2023

Ref: **S1145 PAC33**

Ms. Sarah Cremin
Committee Secretariat
Committee of Public Accounts
Leinster House
Dublin 2 D02 XR20
Email: pac@oireachtas.ie

Dear Ms. Cremin,

This letter follows-on from your request of 30 December 2021 on behalf of the Committee of Public Accounts for an information note regarding Appropriation Account 2021 Vote 31, Transport and references to non-compliant procurement to the value of €604,500.

Please find attached as requested an information note in tabular form regarding contracts or otherwise that were non-compliant with procurement guidelines in 2021, the associated expenditure, goods/services, supplier(s), the reason(s) for the non-compliance, and action plans to rectify the procurement issues.

Yours sincerely,

Ken Spratt

Ken Spratt
Secretary General

Update from Department of Transport regarding Appropriation Account 2021 Vote 31. References to non-compliant procurement to the value of €604,500.				
Company awarded contract	Nature of contract	2021 Contract value € Ex-VAT	Reason for non compliance	Plans to rectify Procurement issues
Airspeed Eir Three	Leased telecommunications lines	€538,500	These contracts continued without a competitive process in 2021 due to staff shortages and prioritisation of projects.	IRCG has a current procurement competition underway via the OGP Telecommunications framework to replace 2 of the current contracts (closing date 6 Feb 2023). IRCG legacy communications equipment is dependent on the 3 rd contract. Once the legacy equipment is replaced a new procurement process will commence.
Iron Mountain	Storage of official documents which are required to be kept for a period of years under legislation.	€66,000	Iron Mountain contract cost is based on the number of documents in storage for the period. There has been no retendering of this contract as DVCSD are currently engaged with the National Archives in getting agreement to shred some 5m documents in storage.	Approval has been received from the National Archives to proceed with shredding documents currently in storage that are over 5years old. Once the shredding is completed and thereafter documents will be shredded on an ongoing basis.

				A new tender process will be carried out to bring this contract into alignment with the procurement guidelines based on the reduced storage requirements.
Total		€604,500		