



DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL

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DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL MODEL FINANCIAL REGULATIONS 2024 FOR ENGLAND

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These Financial Regulations were adopted by the council at its meeting held on 25 November 2024.

1. General

- 1.1. These Financial Regulations govern the financial management of the council and may only be amended or varied by resolution of the council. They are one of the council's governing documents and shall be observed in conjunction with the council's Standing Orders.
- 1.2. Councillors are expected to follow these regulations and not to entice employees to breach them. Failure to follow these regulations brings the office of councillor into disrepute.
- 1.3. Wilful breach of these regulations by an employee may result in disciplinary proceedings.
- 1.4. In these Financial Regulations:
 - 'Accounts and Audit Regulations' means the regulations issued under Sections 32, 43(2) and 46 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, or any superseding legislation, and then in force, unless otherwise specified.
 - "Approve" refers to an online action, allowing an electronic transaction to take place.
 - "Authorise" refers to a decision by the council, or a committee or an officer, to allow something to happen.
 - 'Proper practices' means those set out in *The Practitioners' Guide*
 - *Practitioners' Guide* refers to the guide issued by the Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance (JPAG) and published by NALC in England or Governance and Accountability for Local Councils in Wales – A Practitioners Guide jointly published by One Voice Wales and the Society of Local Council Clerks in Wales.
 - 'Must' and **bold text** refer to a statutory obligation the council cannot change.
 - 'Shall' refers to a non-statutory instruction by the council to its members and staff.
- 1.5. The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) holds a statutory office, appointed by the council. The RFO;
 - acts under the policy direction of the council;
 - administers the council's financial affairs in accordance with all Acts, Regulations and proper practices;
 - determines on behalf of the council its accounting records and control systems;
 - ensures the accounting control systems are observed;
 - ensures the accounting records are kept up to date;
 - seeks economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of council resources; and
 - produces financial management information as required by the council.
- 1.6. **The council must not delegate any decision regarding:**
 - **setting the final budget or the precept (council tax requirement);**

- **the outcome of a review of the effectiveness of its internal controls**
- **approving accounting statements;**
- **approving an annual governance statement;**
- **borrowing;**
- **declaring eligibility for the General Power of Competence; and**
- **addressing recommendations from the internal or external auditors**

1.7. In addition, the council shall:

- determine and keep under regular review the bank mandate for all council bank accounts;
- authorise any grant or single commitment in excess of £25,000; and
- in respect of the annual salary for any employee have regard to recommendations about annual salaries of employees made by the relevant committee in accordance with its terms of reference.

2. Risk management and internal control

2.1. **The council must ensure that it has a sound system of internal control, which delivers effective financial, operational and risk management.**

2.2. The Assistant Town Clerk (Corporate) with the RFO shall prepare, for approval by the council, a risk management policy covering all activities of the council. This policy and consequential risk management arrangements shall be reviewed by the council at least annually.

2.3. When considering any new activity, the Assistant Town Clerk (Corporate) with the RFO shall prepare a draft risk assessment including risk management proposals for consideration by the council.

2.4. **At least once a year, the council must review the effectiveness of its system of internal control, before approving the Annual Governance Statement.**

2.5. **The accounting control systems determined by the RFO must include measures to:**

- **ensure that risk is appropriately managed;**
- **ensure the prompt, accurate recording of financial transactions;**
- **prevent and detect inaccuracy or fraud; and**
- **allow the reconstitution of any lost records;**
- **identify the duties of officers dealing with transactions and**
- **ensure division of responsibilities.**

2.6. On a regular basis, at least once in each quarter, and at each financial year end, the Clerk shall verify bank reconciliations (for all accounts) produced by the RFO. The Clerk shall sign and date the reconciliations as evidence of this.

2.7. Regular back-up copies shall be made of the records on any council computer and stored either online or in a separate location from the computer. The council shall put measures in place to ensure that the ability to access any council computer is not lost if an employee leaves or is incapacitated for any reason.

3. Accounts and audit

3.1. All accounting procedures and financial records of the council shall be determined by the RFO in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

3.2. **The accounting records determined by the RFO must be sufficient to explain the council's transactions and to disclose its financial position with reasonable accuracy at any time. In particular, they must contain:**

- **day-to-day entries of all sums of money received and expended by the council and the matters to which they relate;**
- **a record of the assets and liabilities of the council;**

3.3. The accounting records shall be designed to facilitate the efficient preparation of the accounting statements in the Annual {Governance and Accountability} Return.

3.4. The RFO shall complete and certify the annual Accounting Statements of the council contained in the Annual {Governance and Accountability} Return in accordance with proper practices, as soon as practicable after the end of the financial year. Having certified the Accounting Statements, the RFO shall submit them (with any related documents) to the council, within the timescales required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

3.5. **The council must ensure that there is an adequate and effective system of internal audit of its accounting records and internal control system in accordance with proper practices.**

3.6. **Any officer or member of the council must make available such documents and records as the internal or external auditor consider necessary for the purpose of the audit** and shall, as directed by the council, supply the RFO, internal auditor, or external auditor with such information and explanation as the council considers necessary.

3.7. The internal auditor shall be appointed by the council and shall carry out their work to evaluate the effectiveness of the council's risk management, control and governance processes in accordance with proper practices specified in the Practitioners' Guide.

3.8. The council shall ensure that the internal auditor:

- is competent and independent of the financial operations of the council;
- reports to council in writing, or in person, on a regular basis with a minimum of one written report during each financial year;
- can demonstrate competence, objectivity and independence, free from any actual or perceived conflicts of interest, including those arising from family relationships; and

- has no involvement in the management or control of the council

3.9. Internal or external auditors may not under any circumstances:

- perform any operational duties for the council;
- initiate or approve accounting transactions;
- provide financial, legal or other advice including in relation to any future transactions; or
- direct the activities of any council employee, except to the extent that such employees have been appropriately assigned to assist the internal auditor.

3.10. For the avoidance of doubt, in relation to internal audit the terms 'independent' and 'independence' shall have the same meaning as described in The Practitioners Guide.

3.11. The RFO shall make arrangements for the exercise of electors' rights in relation to the accounts, including the opportunity to inspect the accounts, books, and vouchers and display or publish any notices and documents required by the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, or any superseding legislation, and the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

3.12. The RFO shall, without undue delay, bring to the attention of all councillors any correspondence or report from internal or external auditors.

4. Budget and precept

4.1. Before setting a precept, the council must calculate its council tax requirement for each financial year by preparing and approving a budget, in accordance with The Local Government Finance Act 1992 or succeeding legislation.

4.2. Budgets for salaries and wages, including employer contributions shall be reviewed by the Policy Committee in January every year as part of the budget setting process. The RFO will inform committees of any salary implications before they consider their budgets.

4.3. No later than January each year, the RFO shall prepare a draft budget with detailed estimates of all income and expenditure for the following financial year along with a forecast for the following three financial years, taking account of the lifespan of assets and cost implications of repair or replacement.

4.4. Unspent budgets for completed projects shall not be carried forward to a subsequent year. Unspent funds for partially completed projects may only be carried forward by placing them in an earmarked reserve.

4.5. Each committee shall review its draft budget in its January meeting and submit any proposed amendments to the Policy Committee.

4.6. The draft budget with any committee proposals and three-year forecast, including any recommendations for the use or accumulation of reserves, shall be considered by the Policy Committee and a recommendation made to the council.

- 4.7. Having considered the proposed budget and three-year forecast, the council shall determine its council tax requirement by setting a budget. The council shall set a precept for this amount no later than the end of January for the ensuing financial year.
- 4.8. **Any member with council tax unpaid for more than two months is prohibited from voting on the budget or precept by Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and must disclose at the start of the meeting that Section 106 applies to them.**
- 4.9. The RFO shall **issue the precept to the billing authority no later than the end of February.**
- 4.10. The agreed budget provides a basis for monitoring progress during the year by comparing actual spending and income against what was planned.

5. Procurement

- 5.1. **Members and officers are responsible for obtaining value for money at all times.** Any officer procuring goods, services or works should ensure, as far as practicable, that the best available terms are obtained, usually by obtaining prices from several suppliers.
- 5.2. The RFO should verify the lawful nature of any proposed purchase before it is made and in the case of new or infrequent purchases, should ensure that the legal power being used is reported to the meeting at which the order is authorised and also recorded in the minutes.
- 5.3. Every contract shall comply with the council's Standing Orders and these Financial Regulations, and no exceptions shall be made, except in an emergency.
- 5.4. **For a contract for the supply of goods, services or works where the estimated value will exceed the thresholds set by Parliament, the full requirements of The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 or any superseding legislation ("the Legislation"), must be followed in respect of the tendering, award and notification of that contract.**
- 5.5. Where the estimated value is below the Government threshold, the council shall (with the exception of items listed in paragraph 6.12) obtain prices as follows:
- 5.6. For contracts estimated to exceed £60,000 including VAT, the Clerk shall advertise an open invitation for tenders in compliance with any relevant provisions of the Legislation. Tenders shall be invited in accordance with Appendix 1.
- 5.7. **For contracts estimated to be over £30,000 including VAT, the council must comply with any requirements of the Legislation¹ regarding the advertising of contract opportunities and the publication of notices about the award of contracts.**

¹ The Regulations require councils to use the Contracts Finder website if they advertise contract opportunities and also to publicise the award of contracts over £30,000 including VAT, regardless of whether they were advertised.

- 5.8. For contracts greater than £5,000 excluding VAT the Clerk or RFO shall seek at least 3 fixed price quotes.
- 5.9. Where the value is between £2,000 and £5,000 excluding VAT, the Clerk or RFO shall try to obtain 3 estimates which might include evidence of online prices, or recent prices from regular suppliers.
- 5.10. For smaller purchases, officers shall seek to achieve value for money.
- 5.11. **Contracts must not be split into smaller lots to avoid compliance with these rules.**
- 5.12. The requirement to obtain competitive prices in these regulations need not apply to contracts that relate to items (i) to (iv) below:
- i. specialist services, such as legal professionals acting in disputes;
 - ii. repairs to, or parts for, existing machinery or equipment;
 - iii. works, goods or services that constitute an extension of an existing contract;
 - iv. goods or services that are only available from one supplier or are sold at a fixed price.
- 5.13. When applications are made to waive this financial regulation to enable a price to be negotiated without competition, the reason should be set out in a recommendation to the Policy Committee. Avoidance of competition is not a valid reason.
- 5.14. The council shall not be obliged to accept the lowest or any tender, quote or estimate.
- 5.15. Individual purchases within an agreed budget for that type of expenditure may be authorised by:
- the Clerk/RFO, under delegated authority, for any items up to £10,000 excluding VAT.
 - in respect of grants, a duly authorised committee within any limits set by council and in accordance with any policy statement agreed by the council.
- Such authorisation must be supported by a minute (in the case of council or committee decisions) or other auditable evidence trail.
- 5.16. No individual member, or informal group of members may issue an official order unless instructed to do so in advance by a resolution of the council or make any contract on behalf of the council.
- 5.17. No expenditure may be authorised that will exceed the budget for that type of expenditure other than by resolution of the Policy Committee acting within its Terms of Reference except in an emergency.
- 5.18. In cases of serious risk to the delivery of council services or to public safety on council premises, the clerk may authorise expenditure of up to £50,000 excluding VAT on repair, replacement or other work that in their judgement is necessary,

whether or not there is any budget for such expenditure. The Clerk shall report such action to the Policy Committee Chair as soon as possible and to the Policy Committee as soon as practicable thereafter.

5.19. No expenditure shall be authorised, no contract entered into, or tender accepted in relation to any major project, unless the council is satisfied that the necessary funds are available and that where a loan is required, Government borrowing approval has been obtained first.

6. Banking arrangements, authorisations and instructions for the making of payments

6.1. The council's banking arrangements, including the bank mandate, shall be made by the RFO and approved by the council; banking arrangements shall not be delegated to a committee. The council has resolved to bank with Lloyds Bank. The arrangements shall be regularly reviewed for security and efficiency.

6.2. The RFO shall prepare a schedule of payments that have been made in accordance with the approved revenue budget and have been approved by two members of the council. The schedule will form part of the agenda for the meeting of each Policy Committee together with the relevant invoices. The Policy Committee shall review the schedule for compliance and, having satisfied itself shall authorise the payments made.

6.3. All invoices for payment should be examined for arithmetical accuracy, analysed to the appropriate expenditure heading and verified to confirm that the work, goods or services were received, checked and represent expenditure previously authorised by the council before being certified by one of the Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk (Corporate) or the RFO, manually or electronically signed on a PDF.

6.4. Personal payments (including salaries, wages, expenses and any payment made in relation to the termination of employment) may be summarised to avoid disclosing any personal information.

6.5. The RFO shall ensure the invoices are electronically submitted for consideration by two members of council who have been appointed by the council to manage the council's bank mandate. All instructions for payments drawn on the bank account, except for the payment of salaries, will be authorised by two members of Council. A member who is a bank signatory, having a connection by virtue of family or business relationships with the beneficiary of a payment, should not, under any normal circumstances, be an authoriser of the payment in question. For each financial year the RFO may draw up a schedule of regular payments due in relation to a continuing contract or obligation (such as Salaries, PAYE, National Insurance, pension contributions, rent, rates, regular maintenance contracts and similar items), which the Policy Committee may authorise in advance for the year.

6.6. A copy of this schedule of regular payments shall be signed by two members on each and every occasion when payment is made - to reduce the risk of duplicate payments.

- 6.7. Payment instructions to be signed or electronically approved by members include instructions to use BACs and cheques, following instruction by two members of council, the RFO shall arrange for a payment to be made.
- 6.8. The RFO shall present a schedule of payments that have been made in accordance with the approved revenue budget and have been approved by two members of the council. The schedule will form part of the agenda for the meeting of each Policy Committee together with the relevant invoices. The Policy Committee shall review the schedule for compliance and, having satisfied itself, shall authorise the payments made. Personal payments (including salaries, wages, expenses and any payment made in relation to the termination of a contract of employment) may be summarised to remove public access to any personal information.
- 6.9. Payments made by fixed and variable direct debit shall be electronically presented to the Town Clerk, in the month following their payment, with copies of invoices for approval, and will be included on the payments list presented to Policy Committee.
- 6.10. Wherever possible non-automated payments shall be paid by BACs. The council shall operate a dual-authentication banking computer system, with the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk (Corporate) using a personal identification number (PIN) or other passwords to access the Council's records on that system. Where one of the Town Clerk or Assistant Town Clerk (Corporate) are not available, the Community Development Officer may take on the role. They shall not disclose any PIN or password, relevant to the working of the council or its bank accounts, to any person not authorised in writing by the Policy Committee. The RFO shall be appointed as the Service Administrator for the internet banking system.
- 6.11. New bank account details and amendments to account details for suppliers that are used for internet banking may only be changed on the authority of the Clerk, who will check any changes. A programme of regular checks of standing data with suppliers will be followed.
- 6.12. Payment may be made by fixed or variable direct debit.
- 6.13. Payment for salaries may be made from the Council's bank account by the Council's payroll agent by BACs, provided the instructions are signed off by the Town Clerk and any payments are reported to council as made.
- 6.14. A Credit Card with a maximum limit of £5,000 will be issued to the Town Clerk and shall be subject to automatic payment in full on a monthly basis. Credit Card payments shall be electronically presented to the Town Clerk in the month following their payment with copies of invoices for approval and will be included on the payments list presented to Policy Committee.
- 6.15. The council will not maintain a standing cash float, but cash received by the Council may be used for petty cash purposes. On provision of a receipt the Town Clerk may provide petty cash to officers for the purpose of defraying operational and other expenses. All petty cash payments shall be reported to the Policy Committee.
- 6.16. A VAT receipt or invoice for payments shall be obtained whenever VAT is applicable to recover the VAT. When a purchase is made and a VAT receipt cannot be obtained but offers better value than a purchase with a VAT receipt, if the

purchase is less than £20 the requirement for a VAT receipt can be waived and the vat not recovered.

- 6.17. No employee or councillor shall disclose any PIN or password, relevant to the working of the council or its bank accounts, to any person not authorised in writing by the council or a duly delegated committee.
- 6.18. Regular back-up copies of the records on any computer shall be made and shall be stored securely away from the computer in question, and preferably off site.
- 6.19. The council, and any members using computers for the council's financial business, shall ensure that anti-virus, anti-spyware and firewall software with automatic updates, together with a high level of security, is used.
- 6.20. Access to any internet banking accounts will be directly to the access page (which may be saved under "favourites"), and not through a search engine or e-mail link. Where dual authentication is not implemented, remembered or saved passwords facilities must not be used on any computer used for council banking work. Breach of this Regulation will be treated as a very serious matter under these regulations.
- 6.21. Members are subject to the Code of Conduct that has been adopted by the council and shall comply with the Code and Standing Orders when a decision to authorise or instruct payment is made in respect of a matter in which they have a disclosable pecuniary or other interest, unless a dispensation has been granted.
- 6.22. The council will aim to rotate the duties of members in these Regulations so that onerous duties are shared out as evenly as possible over time.

7. Payment of salaries and allowances

- 7.1. **As an employer, the council must make arrangements to comply with the statutory requirements of PAYE legislation.**
- 7.2. **Councillors allowances (where paid) are also liable to deduction of tax under PAYE rules and must be taxed correctly before payment.**
- 7.3. Salary rates shall be agreed by the council, or a duly delegated committee. No changes shall be made to any employee's gross pay, emoluments, or terms and conditions of employment without the prior consent of the Policy Committee.
- 7.4. Payment of salaries shall be made, after deduction of tax, national insurance, pension contributions and any similar statutory or discretionary deductions, on the dates stipulated in employment contracts.
- 7.5. Deductions from salary shall be paid to the relevant bodies within the required timescales, provided that each payment is reported, as set out in these regulations above.
- 7.6. Each payment to employees of net salary and to the appropriate creditor of the statutory and discretionary deductions shall be recorded in a payroll control account or other separate confidential record, with the total of such payments each calendar month reported in the cashbook. This confidential record is not open to inspection or review (under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or otherwise) other than:
 - a) by any councillor who can demonstrate a need to know;
 - b) by the internal auditor;

c) by the external auditor; or

d) by any person authorised under Audit Commission Act 1998, or any superseding legislation.

7.7. The total of payroll payments in each calendar month shall be reported with all other payments as may be required under these Financial Regulations, to ensure that only payments due for the period have actually been paid.

7.8. An effective system of personal performance management should be maintained for the senior officers.

7.9. Any termination payments shall be supported by a report to the Policy Committee, setting out a clear business case. Termination payments shall only be authorised by the full council. Due to the time sensitive nature of termination payments, authorisation can be delegated to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of Policy Committee.

7.10. Before employing interim staff, the council must consider a full business case.

8. Loans and investments

8.1. Any application for Government approval to borrow money and subsequent arrangements for a loan must be authorised by the full council and recorded in the minutes. All borrowing shall be in the name of the council, after obtaining any necessary approval.

8.2. Any financial arrangement which does not require formal borrowing approval from the Secretary of State (such as Hire Purchase, Leasing of tangible assets or loans to be repaid within the financial year) must be authorised by the full council, following a written report on the value for money of the proposed transaction.

8.3. The Policy Committee shall consider the requirement for an Investment Strategy and Policy in accordance with Statutory Guidance on Local Government Investments, which must be written in accordance with relevant regulations, proper practices and guidance. Any Strategy and Policy shall be reviewed by the Policy Committee at least annually.

8.4. All investment of money under the control of the council shall be in the name of the council.

8.5. All investment certificates and other documents relating thereto shall be retained in the custody of the RFO.

8.6. Payments in respect of short term or long-term investments, including transfers between bank accounts held in the same bank, shall be made in accordance with these regulations.

9. Income

9.1. The collection of all sums due to the council shall be the responsibility of and under the supervision of the RFO.

- 9.2. The council will review all fees and charges for work done, services provided, or goods sold at least annually as part of the budget-setting process, following a report of the RFO. The RFO shall be responsible for the collection of all amounts due to the council.
- 9.3. Any sums found to be irrecoverable, and any bad debts shall be reported to the council by the RFO and shall be written off in the year. The council's approval shall be shown in the accounting records.
- 9.4. All sums received on behalf of the council shall be deposited intact with the council's bankers, with such frequency as the RFO considers necessary. The origin of each receipt shall clearly be recorded on the paying-in slip or other record.
- 9.5. Personal cheques shall not be cashed out of money held on behalf of the council.
- 9.6. The RFO shall ensure that VAT is correctly recorded in the council's accounting software and that any VAT Return required is submitted from the software by the due date.

10. Payments under contracts for building or other construction works

- 10.1. Where contracts provide for payment by instalments the RFO shall maintain a record of all such payments, which shall be made within the time specified in the contract based on signed certificates from the architect or other consultant engaged to supervise the works.
- 10.2. Any variation of, addition to or omission from a contract must be authorised by the Clerk to the contractor in writing (by email), with the Policy Committee being informed where the final cost is likely to exceed the contract sum by 5% or more, or likely to exceed the budget available.

11. Stores and equipment

- 11.1. The Assistant Town Clerk (Outdoor) shall be responsible for the care and custody of stores and equipment.
- 11.2. Delivery notes shall be obtained in respect of all goods received into store or otherwise delivered and goods must be checked as to order and quality at the time delivery is made.
- 11.3. Stocks shall be kept at the minimum levels consistent with operational requirements.

12. Assets, properties and estates

- 12.1. The Clerk shall make arrangements for the safe custody of all title deeds and Land Registry Certificates of properties held by the council.
- 12.2. The RFO shall ensure that an appropriate and accurate Register of Assets and Investments is kept up to date, with a record of all properties held by the council, their location, extent, plan, reference, purchase details, nature of the interest, tenancies granted, rents payable and purpose for which held, in accordance with Accounts and Audit Regulations.

12.3. The continued existence of tangible assets shown in the Register shall be verified at least annually, possibly in conjunction with a health and safety inspection of assets.

12.4. No interest in land shall be purchased or otherwise acquired, sold, leased or otherwise disposed of without the authority of the council, together with any other consents required by law. In each case a written report shall be provided to council in respect of valuation and surveyed condition of the property (including matters such as planning permissions and covenants) together with a proper business case (including an adequate level of consultation with the electorate where required by law).

No tangible moveable property shall be purchased or otherwise acquired, sold, leased or otherwise disposed of, without the authority of the council, together with any other consents required by law, except where the estimated value of any one item does not exceed [£500]. In each case a written report shall be provided to council with a full business case.

13. Insurance

13.1. The RFO shall keep a record of all insurances effected by the council and the property and risks covered, reviewing these annually before the renewal date in conjunction with the council's review of risk management.

13.2. The Assistance Town Clerk (Corporate) shall give prompt notification to the RFO of all new risks, properties or vehicles which require to be insured and of any alterations affecting existing insurances.

13.3. The RFO shall be notified of any loss, liability, damage or event likely to lead to a claim, and shall report these to the Policy Committee at the next available meeting. The RFO shall negotiate all claims on the council's insurers in consultation with the Clerk.

13.4. All appropriate members and employees of the council shall be included in a suitable form of security or fidelity guarantee insurance which shall cover the maximum risk exposure as determined by the council, or duly delegated committee.

14. Suspension and revision of Financial Regulations

14.1. The council shall review these Financial Regulations from time to time and following any change of clerk or RFO. The RFO shall monitor changes in legislation or proper practices and advise the council of any need to amend these Financial Regulations.

14.2. The council may, by resolution duly notified prior to the relevant meeting of council, suspend any part of these Financial Regulations, provided that reasons for the suspension are recorded and that an assessment of the risks arising has been presented to all members. Suspension does not disapply any legislation or permit the council to act unlawfully.

14.3. The council may temporarily amend these Financial Regulations by a duly notified resolution, to cope with periods of absence, local government reorganisation, national restrictions or other exceptional circumstances.

Appendix 1 - Tender process

- 1) Any invitation to tender shall state the general nature of the intended contract and the Clerk shall obtain the necessary technical assistance to prepare a specification in appropriate cases.
- 2) The invitation shall in addition state that tenders must be addressed to the Clerk in the ordinary course of post, or an electronic tendering process.
- 3) Where a postal process is used, each tendering firm shall be supplied with a specifically marked envelope in which the tender is to be sealed and remain sealed until the prescribed date for opening tenders for that contract. All sealed tenders shall be opened at the same time on the prescribed date by the Clerk in the presence of at least one member of council.
- 4) Where an electronic tendering process is used, the council shall use a specific email address that will be monitored to ensure that nobody accesses any tender before the expiry of the deadline for submission.
- 5) Any invitation to tender issued under this regulation shall be subject to Standing Order 17 and shall refer to the terms of the Bribery Act 2010.
- 6) Where the council, or duly delegated committee, does not accept any tender, quote or estimate, the work is not allocated and the council requires further pricing, no person shall be permitted to submit a later tender, estimate or quote who was present when the original decision-making process was being undertaken.