

**BRIDGNORTH TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
21 JUNE 2022**

RCW/2022

17 MAY 2022

REPORT TO TOWN COUNCILLORS

AGENDA ITEM 9 – STANDING ORDERS

AIM

To consider adopting a revised version of Standing Orders for Bridgnorth Town Council, in line with the model publication provided by the National Association of Local Councils.

BACKGROUND

1. The Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England March 2020 Section 1 1.14 states that the Town Council needs to have in place Standing Orders and Financial Regulations governing how it operates.
2. The current Bridgnorth Town Council Standing Orders were adopted by Council on 19th May 2022 under minute number 0020/2223.

DISCUSSION/ COMMENT

3. Bridgnorth Town Council's current Standing Orders are based largely on the NALC 2018 model.
4. In April 2022, NALC published its updated Model Standing Orders for England and Wales. (Updated Financial Regulations will be brought to Council as and when they are updated and published).
5. The RFO has reviewed the updates. The updates are shown below:

18. FINANCIAL CONTROLS AND PROCUREMENT

~~c. A public contract regulated by the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 with an estimated value in excess of £25,000 but less than the relevant thresholds in standing order 18(f) is subject to Regulations 109-114 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 which include a requirement on the Council to advertise the contract opportunity on the Contracts Finder website regardless of what other means it uses to advertise the opportunity unless it proposes to use an existing list of approved suppliers (framework agreement).~~

To be replaced with:

c. A public contract regulated by the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 with an estimated value in excess of £25,000 but less than the relevant thresholds referred to in standing order 18(f) is subject to the "light touch" arrangements under Regulations 109-114 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 unless it

proposes to use an existing list of approved suppliers (framework agreement).

- ~~f. A public contract regulated by the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 with an estimated value in excess of £181,302 for a public service or supply contract or in excess of £4,551,413 for a public works contract (or other thresholds determined by the European Commission every two years and published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU)) shall comply with the relevant procurement procedures and other requirements in the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 which include advertising the contract opportunity on the Contracts Finder website and in OJEU.~~
- ~~g. A public contract in connection with the supply of gas, heat, electricity, drinking water, transport services, or postal services to the public; or the provision of a port or airport; or the exploration for or extraction of gas, oil or solid fuel with an estimated value in excess of £363,424 for a supply, services or design contract; or in excess of £4,551,413 for a works contract; or £820,370 for a social and other specific services contract (or other thresholds determined by the European Commission every two years and published in OJEU) shall comply with the relevant procurement procedures and other requirements in the Utilities Contracts Regulations 2016.~~

To be replaced with:

- f. Where the value of a contract is likely to exceed the threshold specified by the Office of Government Commerce from time to time, the Council must consider whether the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 or the Utilities Contracts Regulations 2016 apply to the contract and, if either of those Regulations apply, the Council must comply with procurement rules. NALC's procurement guidance contains further details.

SUMMARY

6. Standing Orders need to be updated and adopted.
7. NALC have provided a satisfactory model.

RECOMMENDATION(s)

8. It is recommended that Members **RESOLVE:**

To adopt the attached Standing Orders as they stand with the RFO's recommendations.

Ros Williams
Deputy Town Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer