

Clerk's Note – Suspension of Standing Orders

It is the advice of the Clerk that the Council agree to suspend Standing Orders, Financial Regulation 11.

“Where it is intended to enter a contract exceeding £25,000 in value for the supply of work, goods or services the council will publish the opportunity via an ‘invitation to tender’”

Reasons to suspend standing order to allow a single estimated price:

1. There is a legally imposed time limit to get the work done.
2. Failure to uphold the goodwill already extended by NWL may result in the water supply being isolated at source, by an NWL contractor, where the Council has no influence over the cost.
3. There is a significant risk to the Councils reputation if NWL commence legal proceedings to isolate water supply.
4. Costs as a result of legal proceedings are charged by the hour, at each site, in addition to administrative costs.
5. The estimate provided is from a trusted contractor and is in line with the expected costs.
6. It is unrealistic to expect that a less expensive quote could be achieved, in view that 80% costs are fittings.
7. There is little to no chance of seeking further estimates for this work; it is not desirable job, from a task or a timescale point of view, and contractors are very busy.
8. The Council has the power and a legal duty to place an order for this work, and the Assets and Facilities Manager has liaised with the trusted supplier in providing a written quotation.