

**Procurement Policies and Guidelines for
Organizations
(Sample)**

Procurement Policies and Principles

The following principles should be adhered to in the procurement of materials and services :

(a) Fair Competition

Organization should treat all bidders with fairness and ensure that they are given the same level of information when preparing quotations or tenders.

(b) Conflict of Interest

Situations of conflict of interest with the business of the Organization should be declared to the Organization in accordance with the code of conduct of the Organization.

(c) Cost-effectiveness

Quotations and tenders should be evaluated not only on competitiveness in pricing but also factors such as the quality of the products/services and track records of the bidders.

(d) Transparency

To ensure transparency, tender documents should provide all the necessary information to facilitate submission of appropriate and competitive tenders.

(e) Public Accountability

Organization shall be held accountable to the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the public for any procurement involving the use of public fund.

Types of Procurement

2. The following types of procedures should be adopted according to the amounts and nature of the procurement of goods or services:

- (a) Open Tendering (applicable to procurements of value exceeding \$_____)

Notice of tender invitations should be advertised in the press for free response by all interested suppliers or contractors.

- (b) Restricted or Single Tendering (applicable to all types of procurement)

This type of tendering is applicable to procurements of goods or services that can only be provided by a limited number of suppliers or suppliers who are sole agents or patented distributors. Therefore, only one or several suppliers or contractors will be invited to submit written tenders. Sufficient justification should be made for prior approval by the authorized person before proceeding the tendering exercise. The above information should be clearly recorded in the tender evaluation report for examination by the approving officer (please refer to Paragraph 16 below).

- (c) General Procurement (applicable to procurements of value below \$_____)

- (i) Written Quotation

After obtaining approval from the authorized person (please refer to Paragraph 16 below), written quotations should be sought from five (5) suppliers, including the successful tenderer in the last procurement exercise (whose goods or services meeting the requirements). If a list of suppliers is used, quotations should be sought from the suppliers on the list by rotation. The lowest

quotation meeting the requirements should be accepted.

(ii) Verbal Quotation

To enhance administrative efficiency, verbal quotations from not less than two (2) suppliers or contractors may be used for procurement of miscellaneous item or service that costing \$_____ or below. The responsible officer must make a record of the verbal quotations for review and verification.

(iii) Exemption

All procurements must follow and comply with the above procedures. Only in acceptable circumstances should exemption from the above procedures be granted with special approval from the authorized person holding a higher office (please refer to Paragraph 16 below).

Tendering Procedures

3. The following summarizes the stringent tendering procedures to be followed :

Tender documents / quotations

4. Procurement officers should prepare the tender documents/quotation proforma and provide all the required information in the documents to facilitate bidding from tenderers. The information should include tender specifications and requirements, conditions of contract, required quantity of items and service and timing of provision, assessment criteria, tender closing date and time, the place for depositing the tender, the contact person, and the officer to whom enquiries may be made.

5. As far as possible, the officer responsible for seeking quotations from the suppliers/contractors should not be the approving officer for the acceptance of the

quotations in the same procurement exercise.

Submission of Tenders / Quotations and Opening of Tenders

6. Unless in exceptional circumstance of urgency, tenderers should be allowed sufficient time to submit their tenders. Tenderers must submit their tenders before the tender closing date and time specified in the tender documents. Any tenders received after the tender closing time shall not be considered.

7. Tenders/quotations should be deposited in the tender box by tenderers in person. For confidentiality, the tender box should be properly locked with two individual padlocks, and the respective keys should be separately kept by two authorized persons. To ensure fairness of the procedures, the tenders/quotations should be taken out of the tender box immediately after the tender closing time. All tenders/quotations received after the tender closing time will not be processed. At least two (2) officers shall open the tenders/quotations simultaneously and shall each initial beside the each quotation figures as confirmation.

Tender/ Quotation Evaluation

8. In general, tender evaluation should be carried out by an assessment panel consisting of at least two (2) members. Evaluation of quotations of small amounts may be carried out by one staff member.

9. A 'two-envelope system' should be used for procurement involving the technical aspects and service quality. Tenderers should be required to submit price information and technical information in separate envelopes. Appropriate weights should also be given to the two areas. It is normal practice for the assessment panel firstly to evaluate and award an assessment score on technical aspects of the proposals

before opening the price envelope to evaluate the price information.

10. The assessment panel should conduct a preliminary evaluation of the tenders based on the required information and documents stipulated in the tender documents. This will ascertain full compliance with the stipulated conditions and requirements.

11. The assessment panel should select the most competitive and cost-effective tender among the eligible tenders by evaluation according to the pre-set assessment criteria. For contracts involving higher construction costs or requiring higher standards in technology and service areas, a scoring system should be adopted for giving scores in terms of tender price, tenderer's reputation, track records and management quality, as well as the professional and technical standard of staff for implementation of the project/service.

12. The assessment panel shall prepare a tender evaluation report to state clearly its recommendations and the justifications. Where a scoring system has not been adopted and the successful tenderer is not the lowest bidder, full and sufficient justifications must be stated in the evaluation report.

Acceptance of Tender

13. The assessment panel should submit the evaluation report to officers of different ranks for approval (Please refer to Paragraph 16 below) in accordance with the guideline. After endorsement and approval of the selection result, the successful tenderer should be officially notified by post and be invited to enter into a contract with the Organization. For protection of commercial secrets, it should be ensured that disclosure of the details shall not lead to revelation of any tender information provided in confidence by other tenderers.

14. Should none of the tenders received can fulfill the required specifications and conditions, the tendering exercise should be canceled. The original specifications and conditions should be amended as necessary for purpose of re-tendering.

Procedure of Handling Complaints

15. Organization should be committed to maintaining a fair and open procurement system. Tenderers who consider themselves being treated unfairly can lodge a complaint with the Organization.

Approval and Authorization

16. Approval or authorization should be sought from the following person(s) before inviting suppliers to submit quotations and/or selecting suppliers for seeking quotations :

Value of the Materials or Services to be Procured	Procurement authorized by	Tender approved by