

REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION TO CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS

Contract Standing Orders (CSOs) requires certain steps to be followed when carrying out procurement exercises. Exemptions to CSOs can be authorised by Council / Cabinet upon report and separately by officers with the approval of certain senior officers. An exemption can only be relied upon in certain circumstances (as detailed in CSOs Rules 3.1 – 3.5) but in any event cannot be used where the EU Procedure applies.

This form is intended to be used by officers to obtain an exemption to using CSOs.

Name: Andy Wood	Date: 22 nd October 2019
Service: Economy	Team: Growth Point
	Total contract value: £35,650

Background (including product and supplier details, costs etc:

The Future Place programme is a joint initiative of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH), Local Government Association (LGA), Local Partnerships, Homes England (HE) and Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI). It seeks to unlock placemaking potential at local level through quality in design, future thinking, and knowledge sharing. The programme, designed to promote best practice and the potential of innovative delivery, design and funding models, cross-sector collaborations capacity building, and knowledge sharing at a local level, was launched in December 2018.

The local authorities of East Devon, Exeter, Mid Devon and Teignbridge and Devon County Council ('the Greater Exeter Councils') were successful in an application for support under the programme. This was confirmed in March 2019 as one of five areas nationally. In order to deliver meaningful change which will enhance people's lives, improve community wellbeing and create sustainable environments each of the five areas selected have been working with the programme partners to identify where support is required to develop and advance innovative placemaking strategies.

Local Partnerships is an active partner within the programme and have offered up to five days' worth of free support to Greater Exeter. Through discussions and correspondence a proposal has been developed which focuses on the following areas;

- An audit of the existing housing delivery models which exist within the Greater Exeter area, via face to face consultation with the four Greater Exeter Councils to log any emerging vehicle ideas and requirements.
- An initial high level report back to the Greater Exeter Principals Group which sets out the current position, any potential issues arising, and initial thoughts on how best to explore issues such as collaboration and positioning for future funding opportunities.
- An assessment of the potential for various mechanisms for future joint working. This would include consideration of options including informal joint working, joint governance structures, joint programmes, or shared delivery vehicle options.
- An assessment of the potential to accelerate growth by bringing together new supply capacity that new arrangements or vehicle/s would deliver, with a schedule of sites, anticipated delivery timescales, facts on the ground, obvious constraints and other relevant considerations.
- An assessment for the potential of any available funding support from central government, and advice on how best Greater Exeter may position itself to access those opportunities. This would be based on consultation with Homes England and other Government Departments as appropriate.
- A set of recommendations advising the Greater Exeter Principals Group what they need to do to get themselves ready to make a single housing growth proposition to Government.

This proposal utilises the five days of free support available through the Future Place programme. A further twelve days is proposed to be funded through Local Partnerships' grant.

Business Reasons for an Exemption:

Although the following are justifiably accepted as valid reasons for an exemption to Contract Standing Orders, they are closely monitored and should be applied only in cases where a full procurement exercise is not a viable option. (Tick appropriate boxes)

	✓	Which CSO rule?
An Emergency		
Goods or Services to existing systems or kit		

Purchase or repair of patented or proprietary articles sold only at a fixed price		
Effective competition is prevented by government control		
Goods and/or Services recommended by a Central Government Department		
Extension to an existing contract for the purpose of achieving Best Value		
Purchase or Sale by Auction		
Where the Contract is with a Public Utility Company or other organisation which will assume liability for the works on completion e.g. sewer adoption		
Other Reasons (please provide details)	X	
To utilise the free support being made through the Futrue Place programme and the further grant being made available by Local Partnerships.		

Business Benefits for an Exemption:

The total cost of this assignment is expected to be £35,650 plus VAT and reasonable expenses. However, Local Partnerships is willing to dedicate a proportion of its annual grant support towards this work. They anticipate there will be valuable lessons learned that can be freely shared within the local government family. They propose to fund 17 days' worth of Local Partnerships time (including the first 5 days of work at Stage 1) from their grant, leaving £16,100 to be funded by the client.

What are the implications to the following:

Finance: None - the balance of the funding will come from the Garden Communities award which currently sits with the City Council

Human Resources: None

ICT: None

Asset Management: None

Strategic and/or Operational Objectives: The commission will explore delivery vehicles and structures across the four District areas highlighting any issues arising which may impact delivery of the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan, together with any potential for future improvement, including how best to position Greater Exeter to access new funding opportunities. The approach will include sharing lessons and examples of similar range and scope from elsewhere.

Risk Assessment:

Low

Detail risks here:

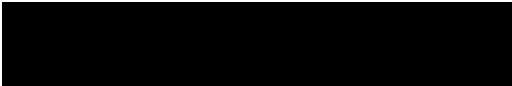
Local Partnerships are a Teckal exempt public body.

Or attach print from the RM system

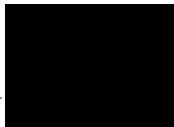
Signature of line manager or service head



Supporting signature of Strategic Lead - Finance



Supporting signature of Strategic Lead – Governance and Licensing



23.10.19

PLEASE NOTE:

Where the Contract value is £20,001 or above then Rule 3.2 requires you to prepare a report for Cabinet to note their support for the action taken.

The Council is required to keep a Register of Exemptions. **Please ensure that a signed copy of this form is provided to the S.151 Officer.**