

Human rights due diligence in procurement – Update noted.

4 With reference to the minutes of the City Administration Committee of 5th December 2024 (Print 6, page 43) approving the adaptation of a Professional Integrity Certificate to include assurances which bidders applying for the award of a Council contract would be required to complete, there was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Legal and Administration regarding the progress of the implementation of the Professional Integrity Certificate in Council procured contracts, advising that

- (1) since its implementation, the Professional Integrity Certificate had been included in 11 open/restricted tenders and all suppliers had confirmed compliance with the 7 elements, as detailed in the report;
- (2) the Council's Corporate Procurement Unit and the Health and Social Care Partnership Commissioning Team had issued the Professional Integrity Certificate to the Council's 778 suppliers and all had submitted a response confirming that they would comply with it, however if any supplier fails to comply, it would be a clear breach of specific contract provisions, the Council can take action under the relevant contract;
- (3) the Scottish Government's SPPN 4/2014 had been superseded following the publication of SPPN 3/2026 on 5th February 2026, however the legal position, remains unchanged and the Council's Corporate Procurement Unit and the Health and Social Care Partnership Commissioning Team would continue to follow SPPN 3/2026 guidance and maintain dialogue with the Scottish Government regarding the organisations listed on the UN database of business enterprises operating in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and monitor any changes to the list;
- (4) the Scottish Government had confirmed that it does not receive advance notice of the list of suppliers being investigated by the UN or when the UN update their database, therefore, the Council cannot lawfully impose a blanket ban on suppliers based solely on the fact that companies are on the UN's database, however, public bodies can take the database into consideration, along with other evidence, when carrying out their normal due diligence in relation to individual companies; and
- (5) the last updated review of the UN database of business enterprises operating in the Occupied Palestinian Territories had comprised of a list of 158 organisations and that no Council contracted suppliers were on the list.