



Glasgow City Council

Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee

Report by Head of Audit and Inspection

Contact: Duncan Black

Extension: 74053

Item 7

10th April 2019

**CORDIA PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTS AUDIT INVESTIGATION –
CONSIDERATION OF EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC**

Purpose of Report

To advise members of a recent investigation at Cordia and of advice given by the Director of Governance and Solicitor to the Council that the matter should be considered by committee in private.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the committee agrees to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting in order that the committee may consider the full report on the Cordia procurement and contracts investigation.

Ward No(s):

Citywide:

Local member(s) advised: Yes No

consulted: Yes No

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Cordia (Services) LLP (Cordia) was created in 2009 to manage the Council's requirements for catering, cleaning, janitorial services and home care. In May 2017, a whistleblowing letter was received which made allegations of wrongdoing relating to procurement and contracts. Internal Audit conducted initial fact finding work, which supported a decision to undertake a more detailed investigation. The Internal Audit Investigation was very comprehensive and involved working with the Corporate Procurement Unit in the Council to scrutinise Cordia's spending with contractors across a number of years.

2. Consideration of exclusion of press and public

- 2.1 Committee will be aware that in terms of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (which inserted new provisions into the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973), the default position for committee reports and meetings is that reports are published in advance and meetings are open to the public, unless certain conditions are met. One condition is if a meeting would be likely to discuss confidential information (as defined) – in this case, press and public require to be excluded. In this case officers consider that disclosure of personal data contained in the report is prohibited by the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018 and so it is necessary to exclude press and public from consideration of the report
- 2.2 It is therefore recommended that the full internal audit report is considered by the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee with press and public excluded. However, we will brief Audit Scotland in their capacity as external auditor, and we may discuss with relevant public bodies to ensure lessons learned can be shared accordingly.

3 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial: None

Legal: The contents of this report are based on advice given by the Director of Governance and Solicitor to the Council

Personnel: None

Procurement: None

Council Strategic Plan: Specify which theme(s) and outcome(s) the proposal supports

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2017-22

n/a

What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?

(no significant impact, positive impact or negative impact)

Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio economic disadvantage.

n/a

Sustainability Impacts:

Environmental: None

Social, including Article 19 opportunities: None

Economic: None

Privacy and Data Protection impacts:

It is considered that disclosure of personal data contained in the audit report is prohibited by the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018 and so it is necessary to exclude press and public from consideration of the report.

4 Recommendation

- 4.1 It is recommended that the committee agrees to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting in order that the committee may consider the full report on the Cordia procurement and contracts investigation.