

**Date:** 09 June 2022

**Title:** Report Item 8 – Standing Orders

**By:** K Larkin (Parish Clerk)

**Purpose:** To report on an update recommended by the National Association of Local Councils

**Recommendations:** To amend the council's Standing Orders to include the recommended update to SO 18 - Financial Controls and Procurement

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In April 2022 NALC issued an amendment to their model standing orders for a parish council.

EDFPC at its Annual Parish Council Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022 noted the recent publication of the amendment and deferred its annual review of Standing Orders to the June meeting so that the amendment could be properly considered.

A copy of the amended model is being circulated separately to councillors, but in fact the only changes are to SO 18 – Financial Controls and Procurement. The changes are in clauses 18 (a)(v), 18(c) and 18(f) where references to the financial thresholds which will trigger a tendering process have been amended to permit a 'light touch' procedure for contracts in excess of £25,000 but below the threshold specified by the Office of Government Commerce from time to time. That threshold was formerly set at £60,000 but has now been left open for ease of revision. Contracts of less than £25,000 need not trigger a tendering process at all. Finally, an old reference to EU procurement rules has been stripped out, leaving only references to the UK's own Public Contracts Regulations 2015 or the Utilities Contracts Regulations 2016.

It is recommended that the council adopts the amendments proposed by NALC.