

Scotland Excel

To: Executive Sub Committee

On: 23 August 2019

**Report
by
Director Scotland Excel**

Request for Associate Membership of Scotland Excel by Scottish Courts and Tribunal Service

1 Introduction

In addition to the 32 local authorities which are full members of Scotland Excel, applications can be made for associate membership by organisations such as council arm's length organisations, community groups, charities, housing associations and voluntary organisations which are a public body or a body that engages in activities of a public nature.

Organisations apply to Scotland Excel for Associate Membership to allow them to access the frameworks for goods and services which we have in place for full members. Associates do not have the opportunity to influence the future contract delivery schedule which is reserved for local authority members.

2 Application

The Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service (SCTS) is an independent body corporate established by the Judiciary and Courts (Scotland) Act 2008. Its function is to provide administrative support to Scottish courts and tribunals and to the judiciary of courts, including the High Court of Justiciary, Court of Session, sheriff courts and justice of the peace courts, and to the Office of the Public Guardian and Accountant of Court.

Scottish Courts and Tribunal Service pays the Scottish Living Wage and is an accredited Scottish Living Wage employer.

To ensure the efficient and cost-effective delivery of these services, SCTS approached Scotland Excel and requested approval to become an associate member.

3 Legislative Position

Before any application is submitted for approval, a number of validation checks on the organisation are carried out. These include a review of the Memorandum & Articles of Association, the financial position and the type of contracts that the organisation is likely to access.

Scotland Excel monitors all requests from arm's length and other organisations to become associate members in order to ensure that any legal requirements are met. In this case, Scottish Courts and Tribunal Service qualifies for membership in accordance with the Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act 1970 section 1 (1B)(b) namely as a public authority or body.

4 Recommendation

It is recommended to committee that Scottish Courts and Tribunal Service application to join Scotland Excel as an associate member be approved, with no annual fee, subject to completion and signing of the agreement document.