

## **Scotland Excel**

**To: Executive Sub Committee**

**On: 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

**Report by:  
Chief Executive Scotland Excel**

### **Request for Associate Membership of Scotland Excel by National Library of Scotland**

#### **1. Summary**

- 1.1 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 our full members. Associates do not have the opportunity to influence the future contract delivery schedule which is reserved for the full local authority members.

#### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 It is recommended to committee that the National Library of Scotland application to join Scotland Excel as an associate member be approved, with no annual fee, subject to the agreement document.
- 2.2 Scotland Excel monitors all requests from arm's length and other organisations to become associate members to ensure that any legal requirements are met. In this case, National Library of Scotland 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.

### 3. **Background**

- 3.1 National Library of Scotland is a statutory public authority, a Scottish Charity and a Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB). The library was established by the National Library of Scotland Act in 1925. The National Library of Scotland Act 2012 confirmed the Library's function and modernised the Library's Board. All board members are appointed by Scottish Ministers.
- 3.2 National Library of Scotland core function is:
- (a) Preserving, conserving and developing its collections.
  - (b) Making the collections accessible to the public and to persons wishing to carry out study and research.
  - (c) Exhibiting and interpreting objects in the collections, and
  - (d) Promoting collaboration and the sharing of good practice with and between other persons providing library and information services, and the adoption of good practice by those persons.
- 3.3 National Library of Scotland are an accredited Living Wage organisation.
- 3.4 To ensure the efficient and cost-effective delivery of these services National Library of Scotland has approached Scotland Excel and requested approval to become an associate member with access to our contracts.
- 3.5 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. It is confirmed that satisfactory validation checks have been completed in relation to this application.