

<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL</b>	
<b>Report to</b>	<b>County Council</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> September 2011</b>
<b>Subject</b>	<b>EXCEPTION TO CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES RELATED TO PROPOSED WORKS TO HOLYHEAD CENOTAPH</b>
<b>Lead Officer(s)</b>	<b>Jim Woodcock Head of Planning Services</b>
<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Nathan Blanchard Holyhead THI Project Officer (x2047)</b>
<b>Nature and reason for reporting</b>	
To report the reason for handling a change to contract procedures as an urgent item	

On the 25<sup>th</sup> July a report was submitted to the Board of Commissioners in relation to seeking an amendment to the contract procedure rules related to advertising the contract due to the specialist nature of the proposed conservation works to the Holyhead Cenotaph.

In accordance with rule 4.9.3.5.3 (v) of the Constitution, permission was sought from the Board to alter rule 4.9.3.3 and 4.9.4.1 to 4.9.4.2.3 of the Contract Procedure Rules. and thereby not placing a public advertisement in any press or web sites for a contract which would exceed £30,000.

In accordance with paragraph 4.5.16.10 of the Council's constitution, decisions as a matter of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of the Council with the reasons for urgency.

The reasons for dealing with the report as an urgent matter is that the Holyhead Cenotaph is in need of investment to tackle damage and decay, and this report seeks an exception to the contract procedure rules in sourcing the specialist skills required from across North Wales.

Officers are intending to source highly specialist works, consisting of cleaning and repairs to the stonework and bronzes, including reinstating lost bollards surrounding the Cenotaph in Holyhead in uncommon place materials and methods, which would be dealt with by general building contractors.

Having worked with appointed historic building Architects it appears from their investigations and by ourselves, that bronze casting of this nature can only be carried out by highly specialist firms, non of which are located in North Wales and other firms in Wales are focussed on art based casting not architectural casting. Similarly, the preferred system for stone cleaning is a franchised system. All the North Wales firms who are franchisees

were contacted and they form the basis of the contractors we would wish to approach. The estimated value of these specialist works equates to around 80% plus of the proposed contract cost.

We feel these works to this Grade II listed building are so specialist they are highly unlikely to be supplied by contractors from the Island despite our and the Architects endeavours to source firms with sufficient specialist conservation experience (as required by the HLF our funding partner), without serious issues of programme delay, poor quality implementation and thereby delaying a very time sensitive project, given our deadline for completion prior to the next remembrance Sunday.

Following approval by the Commissioners, tenders were invited and returned. Despite earlier estimates, the lowest tender figure submitted which also illustrated sufficient quality, was below £30,000 (ex VAT).

<b>Recommendation</b>
To note the above reasons for an exception to rule 4.9.3.3 and 4.9.4.1 to 4.9.4.2.3 of the Contract Procedure Rules of the Constitution.