

REPORT OF FINANCE MANAGER

SUBJECT: VARIATION OF MAJOR CONTRACTS STANDING ORDER NO.13

In 2012 as part of the definition of roles the new Delivery Team were requested to take an overview of the condition of hard surfaced facilities such as car parks and easy access paths. The exercise was partly due because of the need to program major expenditure in an effective way and partly to ensure a consistent standard of maintenance across the National Park in terms of the Authority's liability to users.

The survey threw up a number of works, the more urgent of which have been addressed. It also identified work on the road at Skrinkle Haven where the Authority owns a length of road and where there have been complaints from the Community Council about the condition of the surface. The cost of the repairs is circa £26k. However, as a result of the Castlemartin Ranger's involvement, the Ministry of Defence (MOD) who also use the road agreed to fund 50% of the repairs provided the work was completed by the end of March 2013. Accordingly in mid March 2013 it was decided to proceed with the repair works.

The awarding of all contracts in excess of £25,000 is subject to the Authority's Financial Regulations relating to Major Contracts. However Standing Order 13 of the Regulations relates to variations from the normal procurement process and one of the conditions for use of Standing Order 13 is that the contract is 'required with such urgency as to not permit the invitation of tenders due to time constraints – such as the expiry of external funding'.

The Authority's Standing Order on Major Contracts also states the 'authority to approve the use of Standing Order 13 rests with the Chief Executive (National Park Officer) and Chief Financial Officer only, with the justification for the decision being recorded and retained on the project file. Further 'all approvals under these Standing Orders (13) shall be reported to the next National Park Authority meeting for members' endorsement'.

RECOMMENDATION:

Members are REQUESTED to endorse the use of the Authority's Major Contracts Standing Order No 13 for the contract to repair the road at Skrinkle Haven

*(For further information, please contact Richard Griffiths, extension 4815
richardg@pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk)*