

## **Agenda 10.1**

### **Additions to Festive Lighting 2026**

Proposal that Council agree to waive Financial Regulation 5.1 & 5.8 Under the provisions of Financial Regulation 5.12 to 5.13

5.1. Members and officers are responsible for obtaining value for money at all times. Any officer procuring goods, services or works should ensure, as far as practicable, that the best available terms are obtained, usually by obtaining prices from at least 3 suppliers.

and

5.8. For contracts greater than £3,000 excluding VAT the Clerk [or RFO] shall seek at least 3 fixed-price quotes.

5.12 The requirement to obtain competitive prices in these regulations need not apply to contracts that relate to items (i) to (iv) below:

- i. for the supply of gas, electricity, water, sewerage and telephone services;
- ii. for specialist services, such as are provided by legal and other professional services;
- iii. repairs to, or parts for, existing machinery or equipment;
- iv. **works, goods or services that constitute an extension of an existing contract;**
- v. goods or services that are only available from one supplier or are sold at a fixed price.

5.13. ***When applications are made to waive this financial regulation to enable a price to be negotiated without competition, the reason should be set out in a recommendation to the council. Avoidance of competition is not a valid reason.***

At the Full Council Meeting of July 13<sup>th</sup> July 2026 the draft minutes record the following:

#### **54 Christmas 2026**

##### **54.1 Resolved.**

Council agreed to the commission of fabrication of a concrete block at a cost of £500 to stand an additional Christmas Tree close to the east end gateway of Undy.

Council agreed to the fitting of a Commando Socket to a street lighting column by Mon CC approved contractor where the additional Christmas Tree is to be located.

To note that enquiries had commenced and that a meeting with Blachere Illuminations to add to the Festive lighting provisions and that the Clerk was awaiting confirmation and cost associated with proposed additions.

That costs associated with these provisions shall be met from budget line 4700-190.

**Power to spend: Local Government Act 1972. S144**

Blachere Illuminations have provided the cost for additional lighting improvements/enhancement at . The Council are in the third year of a contract with Blachere Illuminations for Christmas Lighting and as above minute records have agreed in principal to expand the festive lighting arrangements.

The original contract from Blachere was net costed at £7,241.41 for 2024/25 and £7,643.41 for year 2025/26 and year 2026/27.

The current annual contract amount due is £7,643.41 of which an instalment of £3,309.51 was paid in April 2026 giving a remaining balance payable of £4,333.90 which when added to the quote for additional lighting of £5,958.70 provides an outstanding balance payable is £10,292.80 will mean that the cost of festive lighting for 2026 will be £13,602.31.

The avoidance of competition is not a consideration in regards to this additional expenditure as it would be deemed essential to remain with the same supplier so the lighting is effectively coordinated and we have continuity.