

Emergency Motion by the SNP, Greens & Liberal Democrats Group

Governance, Risk & Best Value Committee - 11 October 2022 Edinburgh's Christmas

1. Notes the Council awarded a contract for Christmas events to Angels Event Experience Limited to begin during winter 2022, following a procurement process carried out by the Council's Commercial and Procurement Services (see item 7.5 at Finance & Resources Committee on 16th June 2022).
2. Notes that Angels Event Experience Limited has been unable to deliver all events that it was contracted to provide during year 1 of the contract and therefore the contract has collapsed.
3. Notes the range of impacts and risks caused, such as risk and cost to the Council, potential loss of events by the community and visitors, and risk to jobs and the local economy.
4. Committee notes that most Councillors were only alerted to this collapse on 28th September with no prior briefings to suggest any event planning deadlines had been missed or that any other aspects were going wrong.
5. Notes the decision of Finance and Resources in June 2022 to approve the contract which agreed that regular briefings would take place.
6. Notes concern about the robustness of the process which led to the signing of the contract with Angel Events Experience Ltd which led to the collapse of the contract.
7. Agrees that GRBV will receive a report in one cycle covering:
 - a. The accuracy of the information and assurances given to Finance and Resources in June 2022 relating to the deliverability and finances of the bid which led to the report's recommendations.
 - b. The due diligence carried out on the finances within the bid and any potential opportunities to scrutinise this component of the bid further that could have been legally pursued within the process and were not.
 - c. The compliance of this process to the Scottish Government's procurement guidelines and any practise within the guidelines that was not utilised.
 - d. Alternative approaches that could have been taken to the presentation of recommendations to Councillors- including any concerns relating to the deliverability and finances of the bid when submitted.
 - e. Possible alternative methods of presenting the decision to Councillors which may have allowed committee to take account of any concerns and potentially even chose another bidder.

- f. The subsequent management of the delivery of the tendered contact, including ongoing risk analysis, internal escalation, management of missed deadlines and financial exposures. This should include itemised dates of information being reported to any Councillors. This information should include but not limited to when information was briefed relating to the financial risk and when information was briefed in relation to missed deadlines and failure to deliver aspects of the contract.

Moved by Councillor Adam McVey

Seconded by Councillor Lewis Younie