



## SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Health Department  
Directorate of Performance Management & Finance

Dear Colleague

**1. REVISION OF THRESHOLDS FOR THE WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION (WTO) AGREEMENT ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT (EC DIRECTIVE 80/67), EC SUPPLIES DIRECTIVE (93/36), AND EC WORKS DIRECTIVE (92/50)**

**2. LAUNCH OF SCOTTISH ePROCUREMENT WEBSITE**

### Summary

1. Annex A to this letter gives the revised WTO thresholds which apply from 1 January 2004 for the advertising of contracts as required by the EC Supplies, Works and Services Directives and the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement. All NHSScotland bodies must abide by the requirements of the EC Directives and the WTO agreement.

2. Annex B gives details of a new website [www.eprocurementscotland.com](http://www.eprocurementscotland.com) dedicated to the eProcurement Scotl@nd service.

### Action

2. Addressees should ensure that this letter and the attached annexes are brought to the attention of all appropriate staff within their area of responsibility.

Yours sincerely

*P. S. Collings*

**Dr PETER COLLINGS**  
Director of Performance Management and Finance

**8<sup>th</sup> March 2004**

### Addresses

#### For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards  
Chief Executives, NHS Trusts  
Chief Executive, Common Services Agency, Scottish Ambulance Service, State Hospitals Board for Scotland, Golden Jubilee National Hospital, NHS Education, NHS QIS, NHS 24 and Health, Scotland

Directors of Finance, NHS Boards, NHS Trusts and Special Health Boards

#### For information

Local Health Councils  
Chief Executive, Mental Welfare Commission

### Enquiries to:

#### On Supplies

Mrs Sandra Falconer  
Health Planning and Quality Division  
St Andrew's House  
Edinburgh EH1 3DG  
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Fax: 0131-244 2989

#### On Services

Ian Roxburgh  
Health Finance Division  
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Fax: 0131-244 2371

#### On Works

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Property and Capital Planning Division  
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**REVISION OF EC AND WTO PUBLIC PROCUREMENT THRESHOLDS**

The national currency equivalents of the Supplies, Services and Works Directives and the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement have been revised with effect from 1 January 2004. The revised rates which will run until 31 December 2005 are as follows:

<b><u>Supplies Contracts</u></b>	<b><u>From 1.1.04</u></b> <b>£</b>
Contracts	99,695
Indicative Notices	485,481
<b><u>Works Contracts</u></b>	<b><u>From 1.1.04</u></b> <b>£</b>
All Contracting Authorities	3,834,411*
Small Lots Provision	647,308
<b><u>Services Contracts</u></b>	<b><u>From 1.1.04</u></b> <b>£</b>
Part A services other than R&D	99,695 <sup>#</sup>
Part B services and R&D	129,462 <sup>#</sup>
Small Lots Provision	51,785
Indicative Notices	485,000

(Note: All NHSScotland bodies are WTO entities.)

\*With the exception of subsidised works contracts under regulation 23 of the Public Works Contracts Regulations 1991 and Works Concessions the threshold of £3,236,542.

<sup>#</sup>The categories of the services which fall within Part A and Part B are detailed in Schedule 1 to the Public Services Contracts Regulations 1993.

## **LAUNCH OF SCOTTISH ePROCUREMENT WEBSITE**

1. The Scottish Executive launched a new eprocurement website, dedicated to the eProcurement Scotl@nd service, at [www.eprocurementscotland.com](http://www.eprocurementscotland.com), on 5 January 2004.
2. eProcurement Scotl@nd encourages a joined-up approach to purchasing by bringing local government, the NHS and central government together to deliver savings and efficiencies in procurement.
3. The service is currently live in Highland Council, West Lothian Council, East Lothian Council, Argyll and Bute Council, Renfrewshire Council, NHS Highland, NHS Tayside, The Scottish Ambulance Service, Scottish Water and the Scottish Executive (including several Non-Departmental Public Bodies and Executive Agencies).
4. Further implementations throughout NHSScotland commenced in January. The Common Services Agency and NHS Forth Valley are currently in the early stages of implementing the service. These and all future implementations are being undertaken in collaboration with the NHSScotland Best Procurement Implementation programme (BPI).
5. For further information on eProcurement Scotl@nd in general, please contact the eProcurement programme office on 0131 244 3618 or e-mail [eprocurement@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:eprocurement@scotland.gsi.gov.uk). Alternatively for information specifically on eProcurement in NHSScotland, please contact the NHSScotland BPI programme team on 0131 625 4358 or e-mail [NHSSBPI@shs.csa.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:NHSSBPI@shs.csa.scot.nhs.uk).