

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Procurement Act 2020

‘Chemical Analysis Services’

Purpose¹:

The Government is committed to maintaining ChemCentre to supply higher order analytical services to the State. Many of these functions provide services for the public good in highly sensitive areas, such as the legal and judicial system, or in environmental management, where public confidence in the quality, integrity and independence of chemical analysis, advice and information is critical.

General Procurement Direction: 2021 / 07

Scope of Operation and Timing:

This procurement direction is issued by the Deputy Director General, Advisory Services, as delegate of the Minister for Finance.

This procurement direction is issued to all State agencies and applies on and from 1 June 2021.

¹ Purpose: the contextual information under this heading does not form part of the direction.

Chemical Analysis Services

State agencies that are seeking chemical analysis services, chemical risk reviews or advice are required to request a quotation from the Chemistry Centre (WA) (trading as ChemCentre), the WA Government chemical laboratory established under the *Chemistry Centre (WA) Act 2007*.

1.0 Background

Consistent with previous reviews, ChemCentre has established a long-term sustainable business model. One of the key recommendations of the reviews is that State agencies looking for chemical analysis services, chemical risk reviews or advice be required to seek a quotation from ChemCentre as part of the procurement process.

It is reasonable for Government to expect all agencies to seek a quotation from ChemCentre given the substantial Government investment in maintaining the capacity of ChemCentre to meet strategically important State priorities and support State agencies manage their chemical risks. Those agencies that have existing contracts with private providers will need to honour any obligations and are asked to work towards greater flexibility to adhere to this policy.

2.0 Application

State agencies that decide to proceed with work through ChemCentre after receiving a quote will not be required to go through a formal request process, nor is any formal agreement with ChemCentre required. This is applicable for procurements at any value.

Agencies that receive fee for service analysis or advice from ChemCentre should do so under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), although urgent work can be processed under ChemCentre's standard terms of service if a MoU does not currently exist.

ChemCentre has put in place arrangements that will provide a timely quotation on requested work. After receiving a ChemCentre quotation, State agencies can choose to seek other quotations from the private sector through a formal request process and then determine the preferred supplier. State agencies will be asked to provide feedback to ChemCentre on reasons for their final supply decision.

Further information and contacts for quotations can be found at www.chemcentre.wa.gov.au or by email to government.quotations@chemcentre.wa.gov.au.

Agencies seeking further information regarding how to apply this direction in a procurement process can contact the Procurement Practice team at the Department of Finance at procurementpractice@finance.wa.gov.au.

END OF DIRECTION