

Bingley Town Council

Celebrity switch on of Christmas lights- Suspension of Financial Regulations and Assessment of Risk

A quote has been received from MJK Sports Events for the provision of a celebrity to switch the Bingley Christmas lights on. The value of the quote is £500 plus VAT. Financial Regulations (11.1h) currently requires 'where the value is below £3,000 and above £500 the RFO shall strive to obtain 3 estimates'

The Town Council wishes to support both the Christmas light switch on and the Christmas event. Obtaining quotes for celebrities to appear at functions is a specialist area of work; the Town Council came late into the process and many local celebrities will have been booked already at this late stage.

It is proposed that Financial Regulations be suspended to allow the MJK Sports Events quotation to be accepted without comparative quotes.

The Town Council Financial Regulations make provision for suspension of regulations at clause18:

'The council may, by resolution of the council duly notified prior to the relevant meeting of council, suspend any part of these Financial Regulations provided that reasons for the suspension are recorded and that an assessment of the risks arising has been drawn up and presented in advance to all members of council'

Risks

1. Another celebrity may be cheaper than the quotation from MJK Sports Events.
2. If the celebrity is not commercially engaged, Bingley may end up without a celebrity to switch its lights on, which will reflect badly on the Town Council.