

Public Procurement Thresholds

At A&L Goodbody we have considerable experience in advising public sector and private sector clients on public procurement issues. We have a dedicated team of specialists who advise on all aspects of EU and national public procurement rules. This guide sets out the key features of the UK public procurement rules.

EU Thresholds

The EU procurement thresholds above which contracts are subject to EU procurement rules are as follows:

EU THRESHOLDS (effective 1 January 2012 – 31 December 2013)	THRESHOLD (Excl. VAT)
Public Sector Directive	
Supply and services contracts and design contests (awarded by central government authorities)	€130,000
Supply and services contracts and design contests (awarded by other contracting authorities) and subsidised services contracts	€200,000
Works contracts, subsidised works contracts and works concession contracts	€5,000,000
Utilities Directive	
Supply and services contracts, design contests	€400,000
Works contracts	€5,000,000
Defence Directive	
Supply and services contracts	€400,000
Works contracts	€5,000,000

Source: Commission Regulation 1251/2011 of 30 November 2011 amending Directives 2004/17/EC, 2004/18/EC and 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council in respect of their application thresholds for the procedures for the awards of contract.

Irish Thresholds

Advertisement

Irish Government Guidelines set the following thresholds above which contracts must be advertised on the etenders website (www.etenders.gov.ie):

IRISH THRESHOLDS	THRESHOLD
Supplies and general services contracts	€25,000
Works contracts and related services	€50,000

Source: Circular 10/10 on Facilitating SME Participation in Public Procurement, 13 August 2010

Use of the Open Procedure

Irish Government Guidelines also set the following thresholds below which the open procedure must be used:

IRISH THRESHOLDS	THRESHOLD
Supplies and general services contracts	Below €125,000
Works contracts and related services	Below €250,000

Source: Circular 10/10 on Facilitating SME Participation in Public Procurement, 13 August 2010

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