

**BOARD MEETING ON 6 JULY 2010
ALNWICK ROOM, MARRIOTT SUNDERLAND HOTEL, QUEENS PARADE,
SEABURN, SUNDERLAND SR6 8DB**

CONTRACTS WAIVED UNDER SECTION 9.5 OF THE BOARD'S STANDING ORDERS

Background

Under the Boards Standing Orders provision exists for the waiving of standing orders relating to tenders subject to certain conditions. Approval needs to be given by the NTA's Chief Executive. Once agreed these waived contracts require notification to the Board. This report advises the Board of the number of contracts awarded which have not been subject to tender regulations and have been approved under Section 9.5 of the Boards Standing Orders. A copy of the relevant section of the Standing Orders is attached as an appendix (Appendix A).

Approved Contracts

One contract (copy of documentation attached) was approved by the Chief Executive as follows:

1. Proposed multi-site Randomised Controlled Trial

Approval for this contract was agreed to propose a multi-site randomised controlled trial, concerned with the development of new evidence-based technologies aimed at individuals who are currently receiving opioid substitution therapy (OST), but who continue to regularly use street heroin.

The funds for this project will be made available to:

- The School of Clinical & Experimental Medicine University of Birmingham;
- The Department of Addictions; and
- The Institute of Psychiatry & King's Health Partners

The contract was awarded due to the following reasons:

- The timescale genuinely precludes competitive tendering;
- Specialist expertise was required and is available from only one source.

The Chief Executive agreed to award the contract at a cost of £80,000 (£70,000 this financial year 2009/2010 and the remaining £10,000 made available in 2010/2011).

Stephen Hodges
Director of Corporate Services
July 2010