



FIN04 REGIONAL PRICE PREFERENCE POLICY

Aim	To promote local business partnerships within the Pilbara region and Shire of Ashburton (the Shire) by giving preferential consideration to regional suppliers in the procurement of goods or services via tender or quotation.
Application	Shire of Ashburton Officers
Principles	Strategic Community Plan 2017 – 2027 Goal 05 Inspiring Governance Objective 4 Exemplary team and work environment
Approval Date	10 November 2020 (Minute No. 193/2020)
Monitor and Review	Corporate Services

1. PURPOSE

This policy establishes the guidelines to promote local business partnerships within the Shire by giving preferential consideration to regional suppliers in the procurement of goods and/or services via tender or formal quotation.

The Shire will encourage local industry to do business with Council through the adoption of a regional price preference advantage in conjunction with standard tender and quotation considerations. This policy will apply to all Shire tenders and quotations where prices are being sought from both local and non-local businesses.

2. DEFINITIONS

Construction: *is the carrying out of any works that are construction, reconstruction, renovation or alteration to any structure where there is a design element that has been initiated by the Shire. This includes but is not limited to residential buildings, commercial buildings, shelters and civil construction including roads and other public infrastructure.*

Quotation: Means a statement from a supplier setting out the cost for the supply of goods or services.

Local Business: in this Policy is a regional tenderer as defined in the *Local Government Act (Functions and General) Regulations 1996 Part 4a 24(b)*.

Regional tenderer: means a supplier of goods or services who satisfies the criteria in sub regulation (2).

(2) *A supplier of goods or services who submits a tender is regarded as being a regional tenderer for the purposes of this Part if -*

(a) that supplier has been operating a business continuously out of premises in the appropriate region for at least 6 months before the time after which further tenders cannot be submitted; or

(b) some or all of the goods or services are to be supplied from regional sources.



Region: is defined as all businesses located within the Shire's municipal boundary (level 1 suppliers), or in a neighbouring municipality (Pilbara and Gascoyne Development Commission Areas (East Pilbara, Port Hedland, Karratha, Carnarvon, Exmouth, Shark Bay and Upper Gascoyne) (level 2 suppliers) :

To claim level 1 regional price preference, a supplier must demonstrate that:

- a) it has continually operated a business within the Town for at least 6 months; or
- b) some or all of the goods or services are to be supplied from Town sources.

To claim level 2 regional price preference, a supplier must demonstrate that:

- a) it has continually operated a business for at least 6 months within a neighbouring municipality; or
- b) some or all of the goods or services are to be supplied from a neighbouring municipality.

Regional Price Preference: when applied in relation to a quotation or tender submitted by an Eligible Local Business, involves assessing the price component of the tender or quotation as if the tendered/quoted price were discounted in accordance with the Regional Price Preference Policy.

Tender: means a Tender required under Clause 11 of the Local Government (Function and General) Regulations 1996 or other Tender Procedure as determined by Council.

3. CONTENT

Regional Price Preference will be applied to all quotes and tenders over \$50,000, however only to the goods or services that are being supplied by a relevant regional supplier.

Regional suppliers that intend to claim a regional price preference under this Policy may be required to submit suitable proof of eligibility with their tender/quotation.

If, in the opinion of the Shire, a supplier has deliberately provided false or misleading information so as to benefit from this policy, their tender/quotation may be considered non-conforming and as such may be excluded from evaluation.

4. PRICE PREFERENCE LEVELS

A price preference may be given to a local business by assessing the tender from that local business as if the price bids were reduced by the values set out in the Local Government Act (Functions and General) Regulations 1996 Part 4a 24(D).1.

Level 1 – Suppliers located within the Shire's municipal boundary

A preference may be given to a regional tenderer by assessing the tender from that regional tenderer as if the price bids were reduced by:

- (a) a 10% - where the contract is for goods or services, up to a maximum price reduction of \$50 000; or
- (b) a 5% - where the contract is for construction (building) services, up to a maximum price reduction of \$50 000; or
- (c) a 10% - where the contract is for goods or services (including construction (building) services), up to a maximum price reduction of \$500 000, if the local government is



seeking tenders for the provision of those goods or services for the first time, due to those goods or services having been, until then, undertaken by the local government.

Level 2 – Suppliers located within neighbouring municipalities

A preference may be given to a regional tenderer by assessing the tender from that regional tenderer as if the price bids were reduced by:

- (a) a 5% - where the contract is for goods or services, up to a maximum price reduction of \$50 000; or
- (b) a 2.5% - where the contract is for construction (building) services, up to a maximum price reduction of \$50 000; or
- (c) a 5% - where the contract is for goods or services (including construction (building) services), up to a maximum price reduction of \$500 000, if the local government is seeking tenders for the provision of those goods or services for the first time, due to those goods or services having been, until then, undertaken by the local government.

5. PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY

Businesses who claim the regional price preference should indicate on their tender or quotation submission that they wish to claim the regional price preference and on which criteria they wish to claim it. Suitable proof of eligibility should be provided.

Where a price preference is being claimed by non-local business on the basis of goods or services being supplied from regional sources only those goods or services identified in the tender or quotation as being from regional sources may be included in the discounted calculations that form a part of the assessments of a tender or quotation when a regional price preference policy is in operation.

If, in the opinion of the Shire, a supplier has deliberately provided false or misleading information so as to benefit from this policy, their quotation or Tender may be considered non-conforming and, as such, may be disqualified.

6. COMPETITIVE PURCHASING

Price is only one factor that the Shire considers when evaluating a quotation or Tender. There is nothing contained within this policy that compels acceptance of the lowest price.

The Tender or quotation that is determined to be both cost effective and advantageous to the Shire will be the most likely to be accepted.

7. CONSEQUENCES

This policy represents the formal policy and expected standards of the Shire. Elected Members and Employees are reminded of their obligations under the Council's Code of Conduct to give full effect to the lawful policies, decisions and practices of the Shire.

8. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Employees will use the local market for their procurement requirements to encourage economic growth and local business partnerships where it is practical and reasonable to do so.



Employees are to ensure that the application of a regional price preference is clearly identified within the Tender and quotation documents to which the preference is to be applied and that this policy is made available to businesses as part of the quotation or Tender.

9. REPORTING

The Shire will demonstrate the benefits obtained through the application of the Regional Price Preference in the annual report each year.

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Reviewer:	Manager Governance			Decision Maker:	Council		
Compliance Requirements:							
Legislation:	s.3.57 of the Local Government Act 1995 Part 4 of the Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996						
Industry:	Department of Local Government, Sporting and Cultural Industries Guideline No.11 – Use of Corporate Credit Cards						
Organisational:	Code of Conduct Record Keeping Plan Purchasing Policy – FIN12 Operational Procedure – FIN22						
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3.			Reinstated as stand alone policy				