



Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority

Record of an Authority decision delegated to an Officer as required under Regulation 7 of the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulation 2014

Subject of decision	To procure Oxygen Gas Cylinders in a range of sizes from BOC Ltd without inviting competitive tenders, pursuant to paragraph: - 3.1e – reasons for not tendering and that would be no financial disadvantage to the Fire Authority as a result. Of the Authority's contract standing orders.
Officer name	Jon Butlin
Job title	Assistant Chief Officer - Director of Prevention
Date decision taken	04/02/2026
Reasons for the decision	The Authority currently have Oxygen Cylinders supplied and delivered by BOC Ltd, the oxygen is the most widely used medical gas to support resuscitation, inhalation, overcoming shock among other things. The Authority is seeking to continue with its current supplier BOC Ltd due to compatibility and interoperability with its neighbouring FRS and blue light partners, when in joint attendance of incidents. Due to the BTS Guidelines and interoperability of swapping/sharing cylinders this will help with cost reductions instead of incurring additional cost to lost cylinders due to incidents attended.
Details of decision	The Authority require the rental and refill of 154 Medical Oxygen Cylinders size CD, among others, these are the most commonly used cylinders in service. The estimated contract value per annum is £50,000 Current Prices for cylinders size CD are as follows:- Refill £6.92 Surcharge £0.13 Rental £13.65 Delivery £94.95 The contract will continue on the same arrangements and will be reviewed on an annual basis each February ensuring value for money. Stakeholders of the goods have been part of the review and decision.
Details of alternative options considered and rejected (if any)	Following a review of the recent market conditions the supplier market is very limited in those suppliers that can supply the required cylinder size CD. The Authority have considered and discounted the following options due to them not being financially viable.

For decisions regarding spend of £100,000 and above

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	1. Call of Contract under Oxygen Gas Cylinders via NHS Shared Business Services Medical Gases in Cylinders and Bulk Gases Framework SBS10526 Lot 1. Quoted prices 2025/26 • Refill £14.10 • Surcharge £0.13 • Retail £19.95 • Delivery £87.95 2. Direct Awarding with BOC Ltd Quoted prices 2025/26 • Refill £13.43 • Surcharge £0.13 • Retail £12.10 • Delivery £67 The Authority have chosen to waive the Contract Standing orders instead of Direct Awarding via the above options due to the increase in costs we would incur.
Any interests declared by a Member or Officer	N/A
Links to relevant background documents or information	N/A



Signed

Date: 16th February 2026

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