



## For information

**Title:** Geographical location of contracts awarded

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### Purpose

This paper provides information on procurement activity over the year ended 31 October 2025, and in particular the location of suppliers who were successful in contracting with the Park Authority. The paper was prepared in response to a question raised by a member of the Committee.

### Recommendations

**The Audit and Risk Committee is asked to:**

- a) **Note the information provided**
- b) **Comment on the suitability of reporting for their needs.**

### Contracts awarded

1. Over the course of a calendar year from October 2024 to October 2025, the Park Authority awarded 43 contracts in total. To comply with the Procurement Reform Scotland Act 2014 regulations, 20 of these contract notices were advertised publicly on Public Contracts Scotland (PCS) via an open competition to the wider UK-market to ensure attaining a strong number of bids or owing to the estimated value of each the contracts exceeding the £50,000 excluding VAT threshold.
2. Out of the total 43 contract notices, 9 contract notices valued between £10,000-25,000 were published via the Quick Quotes portal on PCS to selected tenderers based on their capability, expertise or previous experience in the field. Additionally, for two contract notices, Scottish Government's / Scotland Excel's Framework Agreements were applied via mini competitions through Quick Quotes inviting all the Scotland Excel approved and pre-vetted suppliers to take part in the tender.
3. Finally, 12 lower value contracts were awarded based on the results of getting a minimum of 3 quotes from selected tenderers in the field.



## **Geographic location of suppliers**

4. Of the total 43 contracts awarded, 26 (71%) of the winning tenderers are based outside the park boundary, e.g., in Inverness or the central belt. This is mostly likely due to the fact that the majority of the higher value contract notices must be advertised UK-wide inviting national companies to bid, who are usually located in the major cities. The Park Authority seeks to support the local suppliers within and around the park, however, we are also required by legislation to ensure a fair and equitable tender process without distorting competition across all tenderers, regardless of their geographic location, and whilst applying best practice and attaining best value for money.
5. 17 suppliers (29%) are either based in the park (9 suppliers) or around the park (8), e.g. Pitlochry or Aberlour. Half of these contracts were awarded as a result of tender processes carried out via Quick Quotes or outside PCS, inviting mostly local suppliers to take part in the tender process because of their expertise and previous experience in working in the park and liaising with local stakeholders. This same rationale also applies for the other half of the 17 local suppliers who won a contract after scoring highest based on the commercial and quality award criteria owing to their knowledge of the local area and experience delivering projects of similar scope.
6. Graphical representation of this data is shown in Table 1 below. It demonstrates that while only 3% by value of the contracts awarded in the year to 31 October 2025 were awarded to firms within the park boundaries, these contracts accounted for 21% of the total number of awards made. Indeed, 40% by number of contracts awarded were to firms either in or very close to the park boundaries, with these local firms winning lower value contracts.

## **Conclusion**

7. The data collected provides a benchmark on which to develop our procurement approach to the benefit of the local community. The Park Authority will continue in its efforts to inform and assist local firms, to facilitate their success through fair and legally sound procurement practices.

**Mikko Saari, 31 October 2025**

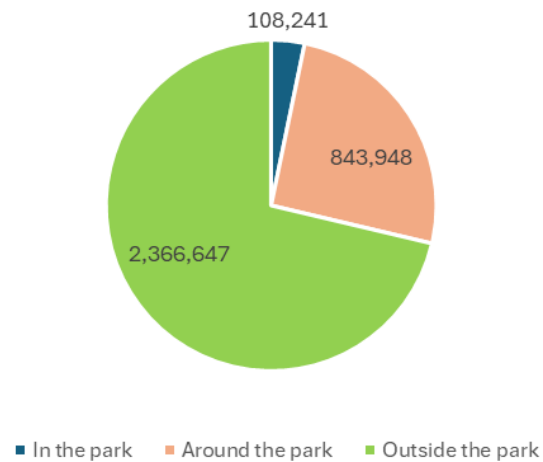
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Table 1 Data

Location	Total value of contracts awarded		Number of contracts awarded	Average value of contracts
In the park	108,241	3%	9	12,027
Around the park	843,948	25%	8	105,494
Outside the park	2,366,647	71%	26	91,025
Grand Total	3,318,836	100%	43	77,182

Total value of contracts awarded



Number of contracts awarded

