


Public procurement contracts of the Regional Psychiatric Centre “Les Marronniers”



The Belgian Court of Audit examined the legality and regularity of a selection of public procurement contracts concluded by the Regional Psychiatric Centre “Les Marronniers”, as well as the implementation of the Centre’s internal control procedures related to its purchases.

It noted significant shortcomings in the Centre's management process with regard to the public procurement regulations. These shortcomings are mainly due to a lacking internal control resulting from an incomplete, outdated and ineffective purchasing process. Control failures were found from the conception of the contracts onwards (orders are split and the procedure involves limited competitive tendering or no recourse to competition at all for some purchases) to their award (errors in assessing the tenders) and execution (non-compliant follow-up of the services provided, inability to check timely delivery and payment and, finally, to prove optimal fulfilment of needs and the final cost of the Centre's contracts).

The Court recommends further implementation of the action plan launched in January 2021 with a view to establishing a clear purchasing procedure, which shall define precisely the tasks of the different stakeholders and, after its disclosure, be applied by everyone in the Centre.