

REPORT TO: CABINET

DATE: 19 JULY 2018

TITLE: PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: COUNCILLOR LANIE SHEARS, PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR GOVERNANCE

LEAD OFFICER: COLLEEN O'BOYLE, INTERIM HEAD OF GOVERNANCE (01279) 446099

CONTRIBUTING OFFICER: BEV THOMAS, RELATIONSHIP AND COMMISSIONING MANAGER (01279) 442652

This is a Key Decision

It is on the Forward Plan as Decision Number I008160

Call-in Procedures may apply

This decision will affect no ward specifically.

RECOMMENDED that:

- A** The Procurement Strategy (attached as Appendix A) is approved as the framework for achieving the Council's objectives and aspirations in the procurement of goods, works and services.
- B** The Head of Governance, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Governance, is authorised to make minor updates and amendments which reflect changes in the law.

REASON FOR DECISION

- A** To update the Procurement Strategy to incorporate legislative changes related to procurement and to reflect the aspirations of the Council.

BACKGROUND

1. The Procurement Strategy was last reviewed by Cabinet in 2015. This review formalises the changes in legislation which have taken place since then. In particular the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulations which took effect in May 2018 and the Modern Slavery Act 2015.
2. It is important to state that this Council will ensure those with whom we contract or share services apply the same high standards of lawful processing and storage of data as well as eliminating Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking within its business supply chains.

3. The review provides an opportunity to strengthen the Council's commitment to equality and safeguarding duties through its decision making.
4. This Strategy includes reference to the Local Government Association's National Procurement Strategy and highlights the continuing development of comprehensive Procurement Guidance documents. These documents, together with appropriate advice, provide practical information about how to comply with the strategic principles.
5. The use of Contracts Finder, the Council's procurement portal, and other ways in which opportunities are published to the market ensures that the widest range of suitable bidders are informed, including small, local businesses.
6. The Council's standard terms and conditions continue to include the Council's aspirations to prevent discriminatory practices and encourage suppliers to embrace the Council's aims for the Living Wage and Apprenticeships.

ISSUES/PROPOSALS

7. During the lifetime of the Strategy legislative change occurs which places a requirement upon the Council to act. It is suggested that in such instances delegated authority to update the Strategy is appropriate and effective.
8. Major changes in policy or where there is discretion would still be reported for Members to consider.
9. It is proposed that adoption of this Strategy is the best way to set the framework for achieving procurement which is lawful, ethical, and value for money.

IMPLICATIONS

Place (Includes Sustainability)

As contained within the report.

Author: Graeme Bloomer, Head of Place

Finance (Includes ICT)

The adoption of the revised Procurement Strategy will underpin the procedures and activity undertaken across services to ensure that the Council achieves value for money in its procurement activity and that such activity is compliant with the relevant legislation.

Author: Simon Freeman, Head of Finance

Housing

The updated strategy builds upon the developing role of the Council as commissioner, provider, and community leader; providing a useful framework in the changing landscape of social housing, ensuring effective supply chain management, results for tenants and demonstrating value for money.

Author: Andrew Murray, Head of Housing

Community Wellbeing (Includes Equalities and Social Inclusion)

As contained within the report.

Author: Jane Greer, Head of Community Wellbeing

Governance (Includes HR)

The adoption of an up to date strategy for procurement supports good governance in decision making and the role of the Council as a community leader by setting the framework for the way in which it conducts business.

Author: Colleen O'Boyle, Interim Head of Governance

Appendices

Appendix A – Procurement Strategy 2018

Background Papers

None.

Glossary of terms/abbreviations used

None.