

BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE PANEL

Procurement Strategy 1 December 2020

Report of Chief Finance Officer

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Budget and Performance Panel with details of the Procurement Strategy as presented to Cabinet 14th July 2020. This will enable the panel to consider and comment on the proposal ahead of formal presentation to Council in accordance with the Council's constitution.

This report is public.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That the panel considers the Procurement Strategy presented to Cabinet 14th July 2020, making any comments and recommendations considered necessary for Cabinet to consider in line with the Council's constitution.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In January 2020, Council adopted revised priorities which place an emphasis on addressing the climate emergency, declared a year earlier, as well as community wealth building. Additionally, the Government, in its National Procurement Strategy, has highlighted the importance of driving community benefits particularly in relation to local economic, social, and environmental well-being.
- 1.2 The revised Procurement Strategy responds to the local and national priorities to ensure that future spending decisions maintain good value for the taxpayer whilst delivering wider local economic, social, and environmental benefits.

2.0 PROPOSAL DETAILS

- 2.1 The Procurement Strategy and action plan will reset and implement the Council's objectives with respect to procurement over the next four years. Crucially, the strategy sets out key principles which will enable to the Council to buy local more often whilst maintaining a focus on value for money. This will be achieved by introducing the measurement of social value, particularly in relation to the climate emergency and local community wealth building, as part of the procurement assessment process.
- 2.2 The draft Procurement Strategy is included at **Appendix 1** of this report.

3.0 CONSULTATION

- 3.1 The Council's Constitution (Part 3 Section 5 – Budget & Policy Framework) requires that when a new or existing strategy is being considered, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Budget and Performance Panel have an opportunity to comment. If it considers it appropriate, Cabinet may then amend its proposals before submitting them to Council for consideration.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing):

None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Legal Services has been consulted on this report and has no further comments.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

However, as noted within the report, the Council will spend around £19M on goods and services in 2020/21 and therefore effective procurement decisions will secure value for money from Council expenditure as well as the delivery of wider economic, social and environmental benefits.

OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS, such as Human Resources, Information Services, Property, Open Spaces

It will be necessary to provide support to budget holders to maximise benefits from more proactive procurement. The action plan includes the development of a procurement toolkit including measures to show improved outcomes.

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The s151 Officer has written this report in his capacity as Chief Finance Officer

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Contract Procedure Rules and Financial Procedure Rules were not subject to the Council's Constitutional review in 2019. The power to amend both the Contract Procedure Rules and the Financial Procedure Rules lies with Audit Committee.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Cabinet 14-07-20
Appended to this report

Contact Officer: Paul Thompson
Telephone: 01524 582603
Email: pthompson@lancaster.gov.uk