



COUNCIL: 18th October 2023

CABINET: 26th September 2023

**EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW &
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 14th Sept
2023**

Report of: Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property

Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor R Molloy

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SUBJECT: Social Value Policy

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To set out details of the proposed Social Value Policy

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2.1 That they note the content of this report and Social Value Policy and the agreed comments be passed to Cabinet for consideration.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET

3.1 That they note the content of this report and the Social Value Policy and the agreed comments be passed to Council for consideration.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

4.1 That the Social Value Policy is noted and approved.

4.2 That authority is given to Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Property to make and approve changes to the Social Value Policy to reflect any changes to Law or Regulatory Guidance with no further reference to Council.

5.0 BACKGROUND

5.1 In January 2013 the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 came into force which cemented the responsibilities of contracting authorities to consider wider social aspects of the relevant area when contracting for services.

- 5.2 In addition to the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012, the Public Procurement legislation permits contracting authorities to apply the same responsibility when procuring for goods, supplies and works.
- 5.3 Following an Internal Audit Recommendation it was identified that the Procurement function would move to a centralised delivery model.
- 5.4 To support this move it is imperative that procedures and processes are reviewed. The proposed Social Value Policy will detail the required steps that must be taken in order for the Council to meet the statutory obligations of the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

6.0 CURRENT POSITION

- 6.1 The procurement service has historically been an advisory service and therefore service areas where responsible for ensuring that any contracts they entered delivered the required Social Value. The new centralised procurement function requires a policy that will inform officers of the Social Value considerations that must be taken in all Council expenditure.
- 6.2 The Social Value Policy has been developed in line with the Community Wealth Building Strategy and will encompass the foundations of the strategy.
- 6.3 The Social Value Policy has been developed inline with the National TOMs framework.
- 6.4 The Social Value Policy defines social value and how we as an authority put this in to practice through our tenders.
- 6.5 The policy mandates officers to consider how, whatever is being procured, could improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the area in accordance to the Council's Vision and Priorities and how social value elements could be included as part of the specification and as part of the scoring and evaluation process.
- 6.6 The policy allows for the evaluation criteria weighting to be increased or decreased dependent upon the nature of the procurement at the discretion of the procurement manager.
- 6.7 The introduction and implementation of the Policy and associated guidance will mitigate the risk of non-compliance to the relevant laws, statutory guidance, internal rules and regulations and ensure all procurement activity is done so whilst upholding the principles of public procurement and in particular statutory obligations to Social Value.

7.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and, in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder.

8.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no significant financial or resource implications arising from this report that existing budget provisions cannot accommodate.

9.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

9.1 This item is for information only and makes no recommendations. It therefore does not require a formal risk assessment and no changes have been made to risk registers.

10.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

There is a direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders, therefore an Equality Impact Assessment is required. A formal equality impact assessment is attached as an Appendix to this report, the results of which have been taken into account in the Recommendations contained within this report

Appendices

1. Proposed Social Value Policy
2. Equality Impact Assessment