



Cabinet

Tuesday, 11 January 2022

Procurement Strategy Update

Report of the Director – Finance and Corporate Services

**Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Finance and Customer Access,
Councillor G Moore**

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. This report updates the Council's current Procurement Strategy and effectively resets and implements the Council's procurement objectives over the next four years from 2022 to 2025/26. Crucially, the Strategy sets out key principles, which will enable the Council to demonstrate its leadership with regards to procurement, its commitment to being commercial and adherence to social and environmental values; and also, a focus on engaging with local businesses.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:

- a) adopts the Procurement Strategy 2022 to 2025/26 (Appendix A); and
- b) that any changes to the Strategy until 2025/26 are delegated to the Director – Finance and Corporate Service, in consultation with both the Council's Monitoring Officer and Portfolio Holder for Finance and Customer Access.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

Approval of the Procurement Strategy will deliver a more proactive approach to procurement and a clear focus on social and environmental values, and procurement with local businesses. The Procurement Strategy also demonstrates the Council's commitment to continue to deliver value for money and ensure it retains its commercial focus.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1. Much has changed in recent years not least the emphasis on climate change and also the impact of Covid on both the community and local businesses. The Procurement Strategy 2022 to 2025/26 (Appendix A) identifies key principles to ensure there is focus on both environmental sustainability and driving community benefits particularly in relation to local social and economic

well-being. This is consistent with the Government's National Procurement Strategy.

- 4.2. The revised Procurement Strategy responds to both local and national priorities to ensure that future spending decisions maintain good value for money for the taxpayer whilst delivering wider local economic, social and environmental benefits.
- 4.3. The Strategy is a high-level statement of principles and policies and is subject to the Council's Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders. The main principles are summarised as follows:
 - *Showing Leadership* - the importance of the role of Councillors, Senior Officers, strategic suppliers, and partners in procurement;
 - *Behaving commercially* - as the Council deals with the legacy of Covid and continues to balance its budget going forward the role of procurement is critical in either directly delivering budget efficiencies or enabling areas to be more efficient;
 - *Achieving Community and Environmental Benefits* - Social value is the wider financial and non-financial impact to the wellbeing of individuals, communities, and the environment from public sector contracts, over and above the delivery of services directly at no extra cost. This section also highlights the importance of engaging with local small medium enterprises and micro businesses.

The strategy identifies both areas of what we consider we do well at and those areas we aim to improve.

5. Risks and Uncertainties

The national procurement environment is one that is fast changing and as a Council we must be 'fleet of foot' to ensure our policies and procedures meet both our local needs and national procurement priorities.

6. Implications

6.1. Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications from this report. Indirectly effective procurement decisions will secure value for money from Council expenditure as well as the delivery of wider economic and social benefits.

6.2. Legal Implications

Procurements must comply with legislation. Legal services support procurement, the drafting of contracts used and with the interpretation of Contract Standing Orders as required.

6.3. Equalities Implications

There are no equalities implications associated with this report.

6.4. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Implications

There are no crime and disorder implications associated with this report.

7. Link to Corporate Priorities

Quality of Life	Effective procurement effects all areas of the Council and all of the Council's corporate priorities.
Efficient Services	
Sustainable Growth	
The Environment	

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For more information contact:	Peter Linfield Director – Finance and Corporate Services plinfield@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers available for Inspection:	2021 National Procurement Policy Statement – Government website
List of appendices:	Appendix A – Procurement Strategy 2022/23 to 2025/26