

POLICY, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

29 SEPTEMBER 2010

REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR

SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To allow the Committee to view and comment on the proposed Sustainable Procurement Strategy (Appendix A) which will replace the Council's current Procurement Strategy as approved in November 2004.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That the proposed strategy at Appendix A be approved;**
- 2.2 **That the Corporate Director be granted delegated authority to amend the strategy in line with best practice, government guidelines/changes and as required following CSR announcements in October 2010.**

3.0 KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 In the current challenging economic climate the Council's approach to procurement must be one which delivers value for money, while ensuring equal access and a quality service for all.
- 3.2 The proposed Strategy will promote efficient and effective procurement across all activities and aims to establish a flexible framework within which all procurement reform can evolve to combat the economic challenges currently posed. Every aspect of the procurement process and practice must be tuned to deliver value or money for the benefit of the people of the Borough.
- 3.3 The proposed Strategy provides the framework for the management of all procurement, and within this structure the Council will strive to deliver on three clear priorities:
- (a) Deliver year on year efficiencies without compromising quality
 - (b) Develop and enhance socially responsible procurement which delivers value for money whilst engaging with the local and regional suppliers to promote the local economy in a manner which takes account of the social and environmental impact of all spending decisions
 - (c) Ensure that equalities issues are fully taken into account in all procurement matters
- 3.4 The Strategy document is a high level statement of principles and policies and as such is subject to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules which form part of the Constitution.
- 3.5 The strategy will be supported by the Procurement Toolkit (a user's guide) which sets out in more detail the procurement methods and practices. The requirements of the Strategy will be embedded into the staff's procurement operations by an ongoing training regime.
- 3.6 The Strategy represents best practice in securing efficient and effective procurement that is sustainable and offers value for money and is therefore recommended for acceptance.

4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The strategy provides the overarching framework for sustainable procurement and will ensure that the procurement process is undertaken in the most efficient and effective manner.

4.2 The implementation of the strategy along with the procurement toolkit, will assist and support the following Council Corporate Priorities: supporting economic recovery via active communications with local suppliers as to how to access information on Melton Mowbray business opportunities, and to provide high performing services that are efficient and meet customers' needs by ensuring that value for money is achieved, ensuring effective risk management, optimising the use of e-technology and by monitoring improvements.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The strategy will ensure that the planning and monitoring of financial resources will be considered during all stages of the procurement process from strategic planning and option appraisal through to contract management.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

6.1 The policy along with the procurement toolkit highlights the legal framework for procurement generally.

7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

7.1 There are no community safety implications.

8.0 EQUALITIES

8.1 The strategy will ensure that a fair, consistent and equal approach is taken across all of the Councils procurement work.

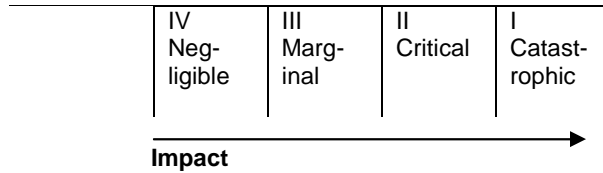
9.0 RISKS

9.1 **Probability**



Very High A				
High B				
Significant C				
Low D		1		
Very Low E				
Almost Impossible F				

Risk No.	Description
1	The strategy is not implemented and efficient; value for money procurement is not achieved.



10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

10.1 The procurement strategy considers all aspects of sustainable procurement including climate change and energy, sustainable procurement, the protections of natural resources and creating sustainable commodities and a fairer world.

11.0 CONSULTATION

11.1 No consultation has been undertaken in the production of this report.

12.0 WARDS AFFECTED

12.1 Potentially all wards are affected.

Contact Officer Christine Marshall
Date: 14 September 2010

Appendices : Sustainable Procurement Strategy

Background Papers:

Reference : X : Committees\?