

Procurement Strategy 2016/17-2017/18 and Sustainable Procurement Policy 2016/17-2017/18

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The main purpose of this paper is to seek approval for the Procurement Strategy 2016/17-2017/18 and Sustainable Procurement Policy 2016/17-2017/18; and to describe the outcomes of the consultation undertaken for both.

This report outlines the requirement for the annual updates to both the Procurement Strategy and the Sustainable Procurement Policy to be consulted on with key stakeholders. The methodology undertaken was a web-based survey, which aimed to gather feedback from stakeholders on the proposed priorities detailed in each document. The timescale for the consultation allows for the documents to be published in December 2016.

The consultation outcomes highlighted the priorities of the key stakeholder groups in relation to the contents of the documents, whilst also providing stakeholders with the opportunity to provide other feedback in comments. Various amendments have been made to the documents in relation to this feedback, ensuring that the proposed documents reflect the priorities of our stakeholders.

This report recommends that Policy and Resources Committee agree the strategy and policy documents, and recommend the report to Full Council.

Procurement Strategy 2016/17-2017/18 and Sustainable Procurement Policy 2016/17-2017/18

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The purpose of this paper is to seek approval for the Procurement Strategy 2016/17-2017/18 and Sustainable Procurement Policy 2016/17-2017/18; and to detail the output of the consultation undertaken for both.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Policy and Resources Committee note the contents of this report.
- 3.2 That Policy and Resources Committee approve the Procurement Strategy 2016/17-2017/18 and Sustainable Procurement Policy 2016/17-2017/18.
- 3.3 That Policy and Resources Committee recommend this report to Full Council.

4.0 DETAIL

4.1 Procurement Strategy

The Argyll and Bute Council Procurement Strategy 2016/17-2017/18 sets out a framework which is designed to enable the Council to continue on its journey of change and innovation through:

- Building capacity and skills within the Council to continue to improve commissioning and procurement activity;
- Increasing the level of collaboration both internally, between service areas, and externally with other partner organisations;
- Engaging proactively with key suppliers through contract and supplier relationship management to ensure that we extract maximum value and innovation from our supply base;
- Focusing our commissioning and procurement activity on delivering improvements for the people and communities in Argyll and Bute;
- Working cooperatively in everything we do to support SMEs and the third sector.

4.2 **Sustainable Procurement Policy**

The Argyll and Bute Council Sustainable Procurement Policy 2016/17-2017/18 builds on existing sustainability practice. The policy covers the three strands of sustainability: environmental, social and economic and aims to meet the substantial challenges of balancing the complexities of sustainable procurement within today's economic climate and continued drive for best value.

4.3 The Procurement Strategy 2016/17-2017/18 and Sustainable Procurement Policy 2016/17-2017/18 are attached as Appendix 1.

4.4 The Council has a statutory requirement to update and publish both its Procurement Strategy and its Sustainable Procurement Policy on an annual basis following the key changes introduced by the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 and the Procurement (Scotland) Regulations 2016.

4.5 Public bodies are required to produce their first procurement strategy by 31st December 2016. This strategy must cover, as a minimum, the remainder of that financial year, and the first full financial year starting after 31st December 2016.

4.6 The Council also has a requirement to consult with key stakeholder groups for both of these documents. This report outlines the consultation process undertaken to meet these requirements.

4.7 **Consultation Process**

The consultation process was been specially designed, with input from the Council's Communications Team, to compliment and support the wider communication activity of the Procurement and Commissioning Team and the Council overall. The consultation methodology was a web-based survey, with specific invites sent to key stakeholder groups as well as wider access available to the general public via the Council's website. The content of the survey aimed to gather feedback from stakeholders on the proposed priorities detailed in each document. The timescale for the consultation takes into account the deadline for publication in December 2016.

4.8 **Consultation Outcomes**

The Procurement Strategy and Sustainable Procurement Policy now reflect the feedback received from the consultation. The outcomes of the consultation, along with the amendments made to both documents based on the feedback from stakeholders, are detailed within Appendix 2 – Stakeholder Consultation Report.

5.0 **CONCLUSION**

5.1 The required amendments to the Council's Procurement Strategy

and Sustainable Procurement Policy ensure that our procurement activities are in line with the key changes introduced by the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 and the Procurement (Scotland) Regulations 2016.

- 5.2 The consultation was designed to be relevant and proportionate to the documents being consulted on, focusing on key stakeholder groups whilst ensuring that the survey was also open to any other interested organisations and individuals.
- 5.3 The consultation outcomes highlighted the priorities of the key stakeholder groups in relation to the contents of the documents, whilst also providing stakeholders with the opportunity to provide other feedback in comments. Various amendments have been made to the documents in relation to this feedback, ensuring that the Procurement Strategy and Sustainable Procurement Policy reflect the feedback received from the consultation.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Policy – Revisals to the Council’s Procurement Strategy and the Sustainable Procurement Policy
- 6.2 Financial – None at present
- 6.3 Legal – None at present
- 6.4 HR – None at present
- 6.5 Equalities – None at present
- 6.6 Risk – None at present
- 6.7 Customer Service – None at present

Executive Director of Customer Services

Policy Lead – Councillor Dick Walsh

17/10/2016

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Draft Procurement Strategy 2016/17-2017/18 and Sustainable Procurement Policy 2016/17-2017/18

Appendix 2: Stakeholder Consultation Report