

Committee: Cabinet

Agenda Item

Date: 26 March 2013

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Title: Procurement Strategy

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Robert Chambers

Key decision: **No**

Summary

1. The Council's Procurement Strategy is refreshed every year and the proposed strategy for 2013/14 is presented with this report.
2. The Strategy renews the emphasis on the four key priorities of Efficiency Improvements, Value for Money, Local Economy and Collaboration, and includes a series of action plan items to make progress in these areas.
3. One of the key reasons for updating the Procurement Strategy is to provide ongoing assurance to the external auditor that the Council has a sound approach to procurement. This is taken into account as part of the external auditor's statutory 'value for money' opinion.

Recommendations

4. The Cabinet is recommended to approve the Procurement Strategy as attached to this report.

Financial Implications

5. There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendation. The Strategy is designed to minimise the risk of challenge by unsuccessful tenderers. The Strategy acknowledges the role of Procurement in reducing the organisation's running costs. No specific savings targets have been built into the Medium Term Financial Strategy in order to avoid being seen to prejudice "best value" outcomes and to preserve the objectivity of the procurement process.

Background Papers

None.

Impact

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Communication/Consultation | None |
| Community Safety | No specific implications |
| Equalities | An EQIA is appended, there are no issues arising |
| Health and Safety | No specific implications |
| Human Rights/Legal Implications | No specific implications |
| Sustainability | No specific implications |
| Ward-specific impacts | No specific implications |
| Workforce/Workplace | No specific implications |

Risk Analysis

| Risk | Likelihood | Impact | Mitigating actions |
|---|---|--|--|
| Actions in the Procurement Strategy are not implemented | 2 (the Procurement Manager has the capacity to take these issues forward) | 3 (the Council will be unable to demonstrate progress) | The actions have been built into workplans and will be monitored through the Council's performance management framework. |

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.