

**TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL**

**CABINET – 12 SEPTEMBER 2019**

**PROCUREMENT UPDATE**

**REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE, PROCUREMENT AND COMMISSIONING**

**LEAD CABINET MEMBER – CLLR LEE CARTER**

**PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT**

**1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS**

A regular report for Members to consider the update of the Council's Procurement Intentions Document and update them on the latest information regarding effective procurement and contract management

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2.1 | Cabinet to note the procurement updates in this report                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 2.2 | Cabinet to note the Procurement Intentions Document (Appendix A) and where indicated, approve delegation to the appropriate officers (as per the Contract Procedure Rules) to progress new procurements through the tender process to contract award |

**3. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

<b>COMMUNITY IMPACT</b>	Do these proposals contribute to specific Co-Operative Council priority objective(s)?	
	Yes	Best value procurement in line with the Contract Procedure Rules promote engagement of local suppliers and stakeholders
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	No	
<b>TARGET COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE</b>	The Procurement Intentions Document is a live document regularly updated by SDMs throughout the year with updates to Cabinet every 4 to 6 months dependent upon activity.	
<b>FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT</b>	Yes	The award of contracts should be within the approved budgetary framework and in accordance with the financial strategy. The medium term financial strategy includes the need to identify further ongoing savings, on top of the £123m to be delivered by the end of this financial year with around a further £25m of budget savings currently expected to be required over the next 2 years. The delivery of future cuts will become increasingly challenging as local government continues to face Government funding reductions. Delivering savings through effective procurement is therefore an important feature of the budget strategy with over

		£12.5m delivered by the end of 2019/20. Active contract management also ensures continued value for money is achieved through the life of contracts. Improving social outcomes through the procurement process could also lead to reduced demand on services and potentially lower costs to the Council and other public service organisations within the area. TAS 31.7.19
<b>LEGAL ISSUES</b>	Yes	The procurement intentions document, Appendix A, is both transparent for all businesses to be able to see and prepare for forthcoming procurements that the Council will be undertaking but also is a transparent process to evidence appropriate delegations to officers. The delegations sought in this report are for officers to be able to commence and complete the procurement activity detailed in Appendix 1 and for contracts to be executed, depending upon their value, either under seal or under hand. All contracts must comply with relevant EU requirements as well as provisions contained within the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and advice will be provided by the Strategic Procurement Team and/or Legal Services, if appropriate.  IR 15.08.19
<b>OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS &amp; OPPORTUNITIES</b>	Yes	The Procurement Intentions Document is published externally. This helps the Council's supply chain prepare for up and coming tender opportunities.
<b>IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS</b>	No	

## **PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **4. INFORMATION**

- 4.1 Council wide procurement continues to drive savings through robust competitive tendering and real time negotiation when brokering services. Where there is a cost improvement plan in place, procurement savings will be reported against this. In other areas, savings are reported through the Service and Financial Planning route.
- 4.2 Government have urged us to 'be bold'<sup>1</sup> with our approach to social value and ensure we don't restrict or unintentionally exclude bidders by making social value complicated. Our procurement officers recently supported a construction event held at Flaxmill, Shrewsbury, to assist local suppliers with top tips on supporting social value. Suppliers were given examples from our own Social Value Tables on what they could do to maximise the positive impact on the local community. Examples include:
- Supporting a healthier community by supporting the Eat well project

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.civilsociety.co.uk/news/charities-minister-calls-for-bold-progress-on-social-value.html>

- Improving public spaces and possibly collaborating with the Friends of the Town Park
- Assisting to become a disability and carer friendly employer
- Support 12 week programmes giving care leavers, NEETs and long term unemployed the skills to work
- Developing care leavers skills by guaranteeing interviews and advertising any opportunities via Telford & Wrekin
- Facilitating meeting rooms or sharing best practice with voluntary or social groups

4.3 Balfour Beatty have recently reported on their social value delivered as part of the contract for the railway link bridge. The illustration can be seen at Appendix B to this report. Their report uses the National Target Operating Model (TOMs) Calculator<sup>2</sup>. This ensures that a minimum and consistent reporting standard for social value is used that:

- Provides a consistent approach to measuring and reporting social value
- Allows for continuous improvement
- Provides a robust, transparent and defensible solution for assessing and awarding tenders
- Allows organisations to compare their own performance by sector and industry benchmarks and understand what good looks like
- Reduces the uncertainty surrounding social value measurement for businesses, allowing them to make informed decisions based on robust quantitative assessments and hence embed social value into their corporate strategies

4.4 Veolia have also explained how they meet their social value commitment in our contracts with the graphic attached at Appendix C. A range of outcomes are shown including the numbers of local people Veolia have helped get back into work.

4.5 The Live Well Telford<sup>3</sup> website offers an invaluable link to bidders to enable them to understand organisations they can link with that work in the borough and who can support their social value offer.

4.6 In 2018, the council became a 'carer friendly employer' this meant that we set out our commitment to making our workplace more carer friendly and inclusive. Our pledge sets out our support to staff that combine caring with paid employment through being Carer Aware and a Carer Friendly employer by:

- Aiding identification and support for carers
- Raising awareness of caring
- Providing easily understandable offer of support
- Making carers feel valued
- Providing help/assistance to managers in supporting their workforce.
- Providing accessible information and support

---

<sup>2</sup> <https://socialvalueportal.com/national-toms/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://livewell.telford.gov.uk/>

The council recognise the essential role that carers play in our community and as such wants to encourage suppliers and providers we work with to also sign up to the carer friendly employee pledge and take active steps to support their employees who are also carers. From September 2019, under the social value section of the tender, we will be asking all bidders to demonstrate how they are or can become carer friendly employers. The benefit of this approach are not one way; research has shown that UK companies could save up to £4.8 billion a year in unplanned absences and a further £3.4 billion in improved employee retention by doing adopting this approach.

- 4.7 The Council is working towards being a Disability Confident Employer aided by the voluntary Government scheme. The Scheme has 3 levels, Committed, Employer and Leader that are designed to support companies on their journey. The Scheme supports employers to make the most of talents of people with disabilities can bring to the workplace.

The Council is currently on Employer level and is aiming for Leader level by December 2019 and to demonstrate our commitments we are encouraging suppliers to become Disability Friendly Employers and to achieve Leader status through social value criteria in our tenders from September 2019. The commitments are;

- Actively looking to attract and recruit disabled people
- Providing a fully inclusive and accessible recruitment process
- Offering an interview to disabled people who meet the minimum criteria for the job
- Flexible when assessing people so disabled job applicants have the best opportunity to demonstrate that they can do the job
- Proactively offering and making reasonable adjustments as required
- Encouraging our suppliers and partner firms to be Disability Confident
- Ensuring employees have sufficient disability equality awareness training

- 4.8 Attached at Appendix A is the latest procurement intentions document for consideration.

## 5 **IMPACT ASSESSMENT – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

## 6 **PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Procurement Update CB-61 14th March 2019

## 7 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

### **Appendix A**



Appendix A  
Procurement Intention

### **Appendix B**



Appendix B Telford  
Footbridge Infograph

### **Appendix C**



Appendix C Veolia  
Infographic.pdf

---

**Report prepared by Sarah Bass, Commissioning Procurement & Brokerage 01952 382470**