
To: Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board

Date: 16 July 2025

Subject: Procurement Strategy 2025 - 2030

1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 The purpose of this Briefing Note is to present Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board with the proposed Procurement Strategy 2025 - 2030 and the Action Plan to be delivered by Procurement Services during said term. The note sets out the background and context of the Strategy and the key areas of focus.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board are recommended to:
- Consider the Briefing Note, Draft Procurement Strategy (Appendix 1) and Presentation (Appendix 2) and make any comments/recommendations to Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance and Resources prior to sign off and launch.

3 Background and Information

- 3.1 The Procurement Strategy 2025-2030 builds on previous strategies following significant legislative changes with the introduction of the Procurement Act 2023 and Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023, the new legislation which governs the way in which public sector procurement activity is undertaken.
- 3.2 The transition arrangements of the new legislation means that the Council will be managing contracts under five (5) sets of legislation for the next 10+ years.
- 3.3 The overarching purpose of the Strategy is to ensure that the Council's procurement activities are undertaken consistently and to the highest standard, setting out the Council's approach to procurement activity through the legislative frameworks and the Council's own internal governance processes.
- 3.4 The Strategy sets out the focus for Procurement Services for the next five (5) years, aligning through the legislation, National Procurement Policy Statement and the Council's OneCov Plan in its areas of focus, whilst mindful of the various individual strategies at directorate and service area level.
- 3.5 The key areas of focus are:
- *Contract Management*
- We recognise the need to continue to improve effectiveness in contract and supplier management to ensure the Council maximises opportunities for

additional cost savings and non-financial benefits. Procurement Services is committed to maximising the use of digital tools to provide further improvements to our contract management.

- *Equality, Diversity & Inclusion*

The Council will continually seek to understand the barriers faced by organisations, review our processes and policies to find the right solution and approach, and to provide support to organisations prior to, during and after procurement activity through guidance and training, bespoke Preliminary Market Engagement and other such Meet the Buyer events.

- *Professional Development*

Procurement Services are committed to ensuring that its Category staff are fully qualified procurement professionals. All Category staff are required to be a qualified or working towards becoming a qualified Member of the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (“MCIPS”) and undertaking annual Ethics test as part of mandatory training.

- *Social Value*

The Council will strengthen Social Value commitments against which tenderers bid back during the tender process, aligning the themes, outcomes and measures committed to by its supply chain and embed these commitments into contract and contractual terms.

- *Transparency*

Procurement Services is committed to exceeding the legislative requirements set out in the various regulations, providing an enhanced transparent view of our contracting activity with a keen eye on supporting small and medium enterprises in accessing opportunities with the Council.

3.6 The Strategy outlines 15 key objectives set out by Procurement Services to be achieved during the term of strategy, aligning through the key areas of focus and attributable OneCov values.

3.7 The Action Plan seeks to go over-and-above the legislative requirements of the Procurement Act to support SME inclusion in tender activity.

4 Health Inequalities Impact

4.1 The Procurement Strategy 2025-2030 is - at the time of drafting this Briefing Note - going through the Equalities Impact Assessment process. To note, the proposed support of SMEs in tendering for Council contracts has been noted as having a positive impact on all protected groups and adopted groups.

4.2 Currently, the Council does not capture in its procurement activity data on protected characteristics of SMEs that tender/are successful in tendering for Council contracts.

4.3 Procurement Services issues an annual survey to SMEs within the City of Coventry. Whilst the take up to this survey has not been high, Procurement Services remain committed to issuing this survey to understand the diverse make up of businesses within the city. In addition, through the term of this Strategy, the Procurement Services will seek to understand how diversity data can be captured and reported and seek to implement such capture to better inform how we can support businesses in tendering for Council contracts.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Procurement Strategy 2025-2030 DRAFT

Appendix 2 - SB1 Procurement Strategy 2025-2030 Presentation

Rob Amor
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