

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Cabinet **DATE:** 12th March 2012

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PART I

NON-KEY

CORPORATE PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

1 Purpose of Report

To present to Cabinet for their review and ratification the Corporate Procurement Strategy

2 Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action

The Cabinet is requested to ratify the Corporate Procurement Strategy and endorse its implementation across the council.

3 Community Strategy Priorities

Corporate Procurement provides business support services to the Council in the delivery and achievement of the Council's strategic priorities.

- Economy and Skills
- Health and Wellbeing
- Regeneration and Environment
- Housing
- Safer Communities

Improving the image of the town – The Corporate Procurement Strategy supports the inclusion of community benefits in all procurement activity, investing in both SME's and BME's. The strategy supports Procurement role in providing advice and guidance to the Chamber of Commerce to facilitate the Chamber's role in enabling local SMEs to compete in the local market and also the benefits of living and working in Slough.

4 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)

The Council Procurement Strategy supports the delivery of key priorities set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy and the supporting needs assessment of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. The procurement strategy supports partnership

working and community engagement utilising the most appropriate procurement model to ensure that a competitive tendering process meets community needs.

Works and services purchased to deliver the Councils strategic priorities and statutory duties include housing improvements and regeneration; transport and road infrastructure; maintenance and refurbishment of community centres, parks, leisure services; disposal of capital assets; delivery of environmental services and the range of community support, community safety and care services; and utilities and goods used by the Council.

5 **Other Implications**

(a) Financial

The Council's Procurement Strategy is integral to the delivery of its Medium Term Financial Strategy and supporting strategies. Supporting strategies include the Capital Asset Strategy, Transactional Services Strategy, and service specific strategies relating to both universal and targeted provision provided to local residents. The strategy will support delivery of both corporate contract tendering and service area specific tendering to deliver cashable and non cashable benefits to the Council. Specifically, it assist the council as it seeks to meet the planned of £745k over the next 2 years by securing savings of at least 4% on all contracts and commissioned services

(b) Risk Management

Risk	Mitigating action	Opportunities
Legal	Implementation of the procurement strategy to ensure that all procurement remains legal, ethical, transparent and proportionate	
Property	None	
Human Rights	<i>None</i>	
Health and Safety	None	
Employment Issues	Ensure robust implementation project plan identify stakeholders and providing clear and accurate communication around implementation.	Schedule of training sessions tailored to specific needs of service areas across the council.
Equalities Issues	Work closely with both the Chamber of Commerce and Thames Valley LEP to facilitate the their role in enabling local SME's and BME's to compete in the local market.	
Community Support		Update new Internet with strategy and revised documentation including but not limited to Contract

		Procedure Rules, Working with your Local Authority and Engaging SME's.
Communications	Ensure that that Corporate Procurement Strategy is placed on both the internet and intranet. Corporate procurement strategy to be included in Corporate procurement training programme	
Community Safety	None	
Financial	See section 5 (a)	
Timetable for delivery	Rigorous timetable for implementation and training programme.	
Project Capacity	None	
Other		Opportunity to obtain a shared understanding of Procurement across the Council clearly identifying the aims and objectives of Corporate Procurement
		Opportunity to embed a Corporate Strategy that supports both procurement activity that is focused on delivering transformation savings and commitment to supporting small businesses and the voluntary and community sector.
		Opportunity: to address the challenging times ahead

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no Human Rights Act Implications.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

The Corporate Procurement Strategy has been drafted in line with the Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 public sector equality duty.

7 **Comments of Other Committees**

Commissioners and Directors requested an amendment to paragraph 5.4.5 to include emphasis on enabling Chamber of Commerce to support local businesses to tender for contracts.

There was also a request to change the timeline so that the Corporate Procurement Strategy was longer than 2012-2015.

There was a request for members training to be refereed to within the Corporate Procurement Strategy.

8 **Conclusion**

It is recommended that Cabinet ratify the Corporate Procurement Strategy and its implementation across the council.

9 **Appendices Attached (if any)**

'A' - Procurement Strategy

'B' - Equalities Impact Assessment

10 **Background Papers**

None