
CORPORATE PROCUREMENT STRATEGY 2024/25

Report by Director – Finance & Procurement

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

12th March 2024

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks approval of the Corporate Procurement Strategy for 2024/25 ahead of publication.
- 1.2 The Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 sets out specific duties for contracting bodies (including Local Authorities). These duties include the publishing of a procurement strategy and an annual report on delivery of the strategy. The appended Corporate Procurement Strategy for 2024/25 aligns with the approved Council Plan.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Executive Committee approves the Corporate Procurement Strategy as set out in Appendix 1.**

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 requires any public organisation, with an estimated total value of regulated procurement spend of £5 million or more (excluding VAT) in a financial year, to prepare and publish a procurement strategy.
- 3.2 The strategy must set out how the Council intends to ensure that its procurement activity delivers value for money and contributes to its broader aims and objectives. The strategy must comply with the associated statutory guidance which lays out the required form, content, monitoring and reporting.
- 3.3 During financial year 2022/23, the last period for which full data is available, the Council spent in the region of £200m with third party suppliers and providers on goods, services and works. This figure comprises both revenue and capital spend.
- 3.4 The existing procurement strategy expires at the end of financial year 2023/24. This new strategy will commence from 1st April 2024.

4 CURRENT SITUATION

- 4.1 The Corporate Procurement Service has a crucial role to play in supporting the delivery of the objectives of the Council Plan. It is therefore essential that a challenging and ambitious procurement strategy, meeting the aims of this plan, is put in place.
- 4.2 The existing procurement strategy represents a continuation of the previous Commercial & Commissioned Services Strategy 2018/23. It was considered an interim strategy required to fulfil statutory requirements whilst the procurement function underwent a restructure following the retirement of senior members of the procurement team and to afford sufficient time to give full consideration as to how procurement could support the delivery of the Council Plan (as distinct from the previous Corporate Plan).
- 4.3 The new strategy is designed to align with, and support, both the Council Plan and the first Public Procurement Strategy for Scotland published by Scottish Government in April 2023.
- 4.4 Other key strategic drivers include financial and budgetary pressures, and the development of procurement capability to support delivery.
- 4.5 The strategy incorporates a new set of strategic themes and objectives which are intended to be multi-year but are accompanied by specific actions which can reasonably be implemented within the one-year timeframe. It is intended that, in line with the Council Plan, the procurement strategy will be refreshed annually.
- 4.6 Progress on delivery of the strategy will be reported annually via the Annual Procurement Report which is also required by the Procurement Reform Act must be published and submitted to the Scottish Government for review within six months of the previous financial year.

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial

There are no financial implications contained in the report however the new strategy will support delivery of value for money, financial plan savings and other efficiencies.

5.2 Risk and Mitigations

If no new strategy and supporting annual report is developed then the Council will not be compliant with statutory legislation with no benefit accessed from the opportunities the new strategy should offer.

5.3 Integrated Impact Assessment

There are no adverse equality issues arising from the report.

5.4 Sustainable Development Goals

Effective procurement supports a prosperous, fair and sustainable area, delivering best value as well as local economic, social and environmental benefits.

5.5 Climate Change

There are no climate issues associated with this report.

5.6 Rural Proofing

This Strategy makes provision for the local dimension and rural proofing.

5.7 Data Protection Impact Statement

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

5.8 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

There are no changes to the Schemes of Administration or Delegation as a result of this report.

6 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Chief Legal Officer (including as Monitoring Officer), the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, Director People Performance & Change, Communications and the Clerk to the Council have been consulted and comments received have been incorporated into this final report.

Approved by

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Title – Director - Finance & Procurement

Author(s)

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Background Papers:

Previous Minute Reference:

Note – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Lizzie Turner can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

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