

Keep the local £

Engaging with local markets



Performance and impact on the local economy

This will be a key measure of success for the Procurement function. The recording of savings achieved through contracting will be captured and reported to demonstrate value added.

A full review of the Council's approach to Social Value is being undertaken; there is a new emphasis on all contracts containing the duty to consider social benefits which could be delivered from contracting. Training has already been provided to all procurement and commissioning officers to guide and assist the practical delivery of social value outcomes. A new system of recording and reporting on Social Value measures which have been achieved is being designed; partner agencies are being consulted on the approach in order to have a consistent methodology which is understood by all parties.

A number of indicators relating to economic impact and local businesses are being implemented in conjunction with the Knowsley Chamber of Commerce. These will include factors such as the numbers of businesses registered on the Chest (the Council's e-tendering portal), data on SME spending, numbers of local businesses bidding for and winning contracts, the impact of "keeping the pound local", and how much market engagement there has been in advance of contracts being advertised in the market place.

The procurement relationship with the local business community and voluntary sector will be reinvigorated and will include better communication, transparency of opportunities, advice, feedback, guidance, training and a series of engagement events.

Leadership, management, relationships and profile

There is a strong commitment within the Council both at a political and at officer level to raise the profile of high quality procurement and its role in delivering benefits to the local community. Much of the Strategy and Transformation Plan will seek to increase transparency, reporting and accountability on procurement activities to demonstrate the impact of procurement, thus heightening the profile and visibility of procurement across the Council as well as relationships with stakeholders and partners. Procurement will be seen as operating a valuable service at the core of the Council's business.

A campaign of awareness raising, communication and marketing will take place using a range of media, including the Council's website, events and mail shots.

Workforce development, training, advice & guidance and role clarity

The development of staff in the procurement and commissioning teams is essential to maintain a motivated, highly trained and skilled workforce to deliver upon the aims of the Procurement Strategy. A new operational officer group has been established (the Commissioning and Procurement Forum) to deliver training, provide guidance, mutual support and learning, sharing best practice and innovative ideas and to develop the co-dependant relationship between both commissioners and procurement officers.

Collaboration with other organisations

The Council will continue to build upon the existing good practices of delivering savings through economies of scale through collaborative working with other local authorities and public bodies across the Liverpool City Region.

A renewed focus will examine and deliver opportunities on a Knowsley footprint through closer working with partners who form part of the Knowsley Partnership, including First Ark Group and the Knowsley Clinical Commissioning Group.



Working with Partners for local people



Investing in people Transformation & Modernisation Plan 2016

Delivering social value Ensuring best value

Working with Partners for local people Meeting council priorities

Transformation & Modernisation

Procurement Strategy and Transformation



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Ensuring best value & quality for our residents

Aim of the Strategy and Plan

The purpose of this Strategy and Plan is to transform Procurement in Knowsley in 2016. The procurement of services, goods and works will seek to deliver savings, support the local economy and wider social and environmental benefits for the communities of Knowsley.

In doing so, there will be a refreshed focus on how commissioning and procurement activity can help deliver on the Council's key priorities:

Long term priorities

- A thriving and diverse economy;
- Healthy, safe and financially secure residents; and,
- Attractive and sustainable neighbourhoods, towns and green spaces.

Medium Term Priorities

- A sustainable budget strategy;
- Sustainable children's services;
- Improvements in Adult Social Care; and,
- Business growth, jobs and housing.

Meeting council priorities



Supporting the local economy and jobs



Transformation & Modernisation

Delivering social value

Procurement in Knowsley

Knowsley Council spends approximately £90m per annum in securing services, goods and works from third parties. Given the Government's austerity measures over the last several years and continuing Government reductions in public funding, it is critical that value for money and savings are at the forefront of commissioning and procurement practice.

A review of the Procurement function has taken place and a detailed Transformation Plan has been developed and is being implemented across the following six themes:

- Governance, reporting and accountability;
- Process and exploitation of information technology;
- Performance and impact on the local economy;
- Leadership, management, relationships and profile;
- Workforce development, training, advice and guidance, and role clarity; and
- Collaboration with other organisations.

Governance, reporting and accountability

The Council will improve transparency of reporting around its procurement practices and engage with Elected Members in the process. A protocol for the role of Elected Members in commissioning and procurement has been drafted and will be implemented following consideration at the Council's Annual General Meeting in May 2016.

A full review of Contract Procedure Rules is being undertaken to ensure that bureaucracy is minimised whilst providing sufficient management of risk associated with procuring goods and services. These changes will be considered as part of the review of the Council's Constitution at the Council's Annual General Meeting in May 2016.

A very important element of the changes to be introduced will be improved forward planning of all commissioning activity where contracts are to be let; this will involve publication of future procurement activity which will ensure that the various interested markets will have sufficient time to prepare for submission of quotes or tenders.



Process and exploitation of Information Technology

Processes are being reviewed in relation to how procurement operates. The introduction of a Single Contract Register on a secure database will be pivotal in the management and reporting of the service. Technology will be used to automate the capture of data around expenditure activity, ensure spending is compliant with existing contracts, and enable the analysis of spending with types of organisation (e.g. Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and local businesses).

Transparency of opportunity

