



Classification: Open	Decision Type: n/a Non Key
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Report to:	Audit Committee Cabinet	Date: 12 Oct 2022 19 Oct 2022
Subject:	Bury Procurement Strategy	
Report of	Section.151 Officer Cabinet Member for Finance & Communities	

Summary

This report sets out proposals for a new Procurement Strategy for Bury Council. The current Procurement Strategy 'Buying into Bury' expired in 2015 and required a comprehensive review for it to be a more strategic approach rather than operational and to bring it up to date.

The Procurement Strategy is owned by Strategic Procurement but is a council-wide strategy due to the devolved nature of procurement at Bury Council. The strategy has been drafted by STAR procurement in consultation with the strategic procurement team and internal audit.

The new strategy reflects the priorities and themes contained in the recently launched National Procurement Strategy for Local Government as well as linking it to Lets Do It! Strategy.

Recommendation(s)

- Note the content of the report
- Approve the new Bury Procurement Strategy

Reasons for recommendation(s)

Provides up to date and appropriate Procurement Strategy that reflects national best practice and local priorities. The strategy is high level and has been future proofed to allow for any immediate changes in procurement i.e. new Regulations.

Alternative options considered and rejected

The current Procurement Strategy expired in 2015 and requires significant updating as it contained out-dated information and included significant operational activity rather than setting the strategic approach and direction.

The proposed approach recognises the devolved procurement approach adopted in Bury and reflects national best practice as well as local priorities.

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1. Background

- 1.1. STAR Procurement (a shared procurement service between 4 local authorities in Greater Manchester) has been commissioned by the Council to provide strategic support to the Council, as well as some operational support. This support has been brought in to assist the Council in addressing the current resourcing situation within the procurement team.
- 1.2. The Procurement Strategy sets out our strategic approach to procurement activity. It is not intended to be an operational guide to procurement; however the objectives should be applied to all our procurement activity.
- 1.3. This Procurement Strategy is the first of a suite of documents to further and improve procurement within the Council, other documents coming forwards as part of this suite include: Contract Procedure Rules and Social Value Strategy (timescales yet to be confirmed).
- 1.4. There is a wealth of national, regional and local strategies and legislation that influences our procurement activity. In this complex and multi-layered context, this Procurement Strategy is designed to embed the strategic context into our procurement activity.
- 1.5. It will provide a consistent approach to procurement and practical guidance to how we deliver effective procurement activity.
- 1.6. A copy of the draft Procurement Strategy is included in Appendix 1.

2. Themes and Enablers

- 2.1. The LGA launched the National Procurement Strategy for Local Government in England (NPS) in August 2022. The strategy sets out the themes and enablers which have been identified by local Councils themselves as being necessary for successful delivery of procurement in local government. Therefore it is proposed that these are adopted by Bury Council as key priorities for procurement.
- 2.2. The themes are:
 - Showing leadership
 - Behaving commercially
 - Achieving community benefits
- 2.3. The enablers are:
 - Adding value
 - Developing talent
 - Exploiting digital technology
 - Enabling innovation
 - Embedding change

3. **Measuring Success**

- 3.1. Strategic Procurement will take ownership of this strategy but as a devolved procurement service, the delivery of this strategy is a Council-wide responsibility.
- 3.2. Measuring success of the strategy will be via:
 - LGA National Procurement Strategy for Local Government Toolkit
 - Performance management data
 - Regular Feedback from stakeholders
 - Case studies

Links with the Corporate Priorities:

4. This procurement strategy supports the delivery of the **'Let's Do It' strategy**, and outlines how we will use procurement to deliver the vision, values and priorities. The **'Let's Do It' strategy** sets out the vision and objectives for Bury for 2030. Procurement will support these outcomes through the efficient and robust procurement of goods, works and services. Procurement will also support economic development, supply chain resilience, and help deliver real outcomes to the people of Bury through social value.
 - Delivering inclusive economic growth by continuing our commitment to Bury-based businesses and reducing the complexity and bureaucracy of our procurement approach
 - Delivering carbon neutrality by 2038, improved quality of life, improved educational attainment and increased adult skill levels and employability by including guidance on Social Value

Equality Impact and Considerations:

5. The proposed Procurement Strategy does not bring about any changes that would impact on one protected characteristic over and above another, it doesn't result in increased/decreased access to services or provision for any particular group of the population or cause any disadvantage to a community of interest. The approach is to ensure value for all contracts and thus strive to mitigate Council costs, which would benefit all residents

Environmental Impact and Considerations:

6. Environmental impact and considerations in procurement are addressed through Social Value and are included in this Procurement Strategy
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Assessment and Mitigation of Risk:

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
A new Procurement Strategy sets the strategic direction for procurement on a Council-wide basis.	Training and communications will be put in place to ensure officers understand their role and responsibilities in delivery of this strategy

Legal Implications:

7. The revised strategy presents a sensible way forward for the Council's procurement programme. Provided that Procurement is properly resourced and sufficient training provided for client departments, it offers an opportunity for achieving significant finite savings as well as ensuring that the Council obtains value for money for services, equipment and goods received.

Financial Implications:

8. There are no direct financial implications of the procurement strategy but the implementation of the procurement strategy will ensure good control and discipline over all procurements, ensure best value for money, achievement of social value and adherence to other Council policies and strategies such as carbon reduction

Background papers:

Appendix 1: Bury Procurement Strategy

National Procurement Strategy for Local Government 2022 -

<https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/national-procurement-strategy-local-government-england-2022>

Please include a glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.

Term	Meaning
LGA	Local Government Association
Social Value	The concept of seeking to maximize the additional benefit that can be created by procuring or commissioning goods and services, above and beyond the benefit of merely the goods and services themselves