

Adoption of New Procurement Strategy



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South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership



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PSPS
Public Sector Partnership Services Ltd

Purpose of a Procurement Strategy

- A Procurement Strategy documents how the Council runs its procurement function.
- Provides a clear direction on procurement activity for the next 3 years that can be reviewed.



Background

- PSPS Procurement & Contracts team provides a service internally to PSPS Service Departments, as well as externally, to the client Councils (ELDC, SHDC & BBC).
- Our team was newly set up in October 2022 and our service delivery to the client Councils went live in April 2023. The team have been on-boarded to standardise the procurement service across PSPS and the client Councils, whilst delivering an excellent service.
- In March 2023, Council approved its Annual Delivery Plan 23/24, which included a specific action to bring forward a Procurement Strategy for adoption. This was also a key strand of the South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership Business Case, recognising that through joint procurement the Councils could deliver significant savings.
- In June/July 2023, a report, along with the proposed Procurement Strategy, went to each respective Council Scrutiny Committee where positive feedback was received and two minor amendments were made, that are now included within the Proposed Procurement Strategy (Appendix 1)



Reasons for adopting a new Procurement Strategy

- The Council does not currently have a Procurement Strategy in place. It is deemed best practice for Local Authorities to have a Procurement Strategy adopted and implemented.
- To ensure that the Council has a clear Procurement Strategy for the next 3 years.
- To agree an approach to Procurement that maximises the savings opportunities for the Council.
- To ensure compliance with audit requirements as some of the Partner Councils have had audit recommendations to update their Procurement Strategies.
- To help support key Council priorities, such as sourcing local suppliers, procuring sustainably and ethically.



Key Points

- The proposed Procurement Strategy focusses on the key themes from the National Procurement Strategy. These are:
 - Showing Leadership
 - Behaving Commercially
 - Achieving Community Benefits
- These key themes are broken down into sections which then outline the strategy to improve and enhance the procurement service.
- Some examples of this include;
 - **Developing and rolling out a basic procurement training programme for Members to assist with understanding the procurement process and the value that it adds;**
 - **Seeking collaborative procurement opportunities between the three Client Councils;**
 - **Attending contractor review meetings and assisting with any contractual queries;**
 - **Providing efficient and effective information to local SMEs and micro businesses who are interested in supplying goods/services to the Council to ensure the process is as simple as possible for them.**



Key Points (Continued)

- Sustainable Procurement is another element within our Procurement Strategy. Some of our strategic focusses here include;
 - **Ensuring sustainability / environmental is an agenda item at the beginning of each new procurement project so that it is being considered for every project;**
 - **Actively monitoring suppliers who have proposed commitments within their tender submission to ensure they are doing what they have said they would do.**
- Ethical Procurement is also included within the Procurement Strategy. Some of our strategic focusses here include;
 - **Monitoring key contracts closely to ensure visibility of the entire supply chain to ensure ethical behaviour.**
 - **Ensuring that Officers who shall be evaluating tenders sign a Declaration of Interest to confirm that they have no conflict of interest with any of the bidding suppliers.**
- The strategy also links in with the Council's Corporate Strategies / Priorities.



What is 'Local'?

It is proposed that Local is split into three strands;

1. Within the Boundary of each respective Council.
2. Within the Boundaries of the Partnership.
3. Within Lincolnshire, or 60 miles from the boundary of one of the Councils.

Analysis will be undertaken of the % of local suppliers in the first and second strands as above.



ANY QUESTIONS?

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