

BRECKLAND COUNCIL

Report of the Director of Governance and Finance to the BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE – 30th March 2010

SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT AND COMMISSIONING STRATEGY

1. Purpose of Report

This report seeks approval for a Sustainable Procurement and Commissioning Strategy, which supersedes the current Procurement Strategy.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 2.1 Approves the attached Sustainable Procurement and Commissioning Strategy.
- 2.2 Directs the Policy and Performance Manager to align the objectives set out in the strategy with the Corporate Business Plan.

Note: In preparing this report, due regard has been had to equality of opportunity, human rights, prevention of crime and disorder, environmental and risk management considerations as appropriate. Relevant officers have been consulted in relation to any legal, financial or human resources implications and comments received are reflected in the report.

3. Information, Issues and Options

3.1 Background

- 3.1.1 The Local Government Act 1999 places a duty of Best Value on all authorities to secure continuous improvements in the way activities are carried out, having regard to a combination of efficiency, economy and effectiveness. The National Procurement Strategy issued in October 2003 set out a vision for procurement practices by setting a number of milestones for Councils. Members will recall that the procurement strategy approved in January 2006 incorporated these milestones and this strategy was due to be replaced at the end of 2009. A sustainable procurement strategy was also approved by Members in January 2008. The Sustainable Procurement and Commissioning Strategy referred to in this report replaces the two individual strategies previously adopted by Members.

3.2 Issues

- 3.2.1 Procurement in Local Government has evolved considerably over the past few years and as a result the Procurement and Commissioning Strategy attached to this report is designed to reflect these changes whilst complimenting the National Procurement Strategy and the new Sustainable Procurement National Action Plan. This new strategy also compliments the Council's Strategic Business Plan which looks to improve outcomes for service users.

3.3 Options

- 3.3.1 Approve the updated Strategy
- 3.3.2 Not to approve the updated strategy as presented and make amendments.

3.4 Reasons for Recommendation(s)

- 3.4.1 By adopting the updated strategy the Council will be embracing the principles laid

down in the Sustainable Procurement National Action Plan. This will also be replicated in Breckland's Vision for procurement as can be seen in 1.3 of the attached Sustainable Procurement and Commissioning Strategy

4. Risk and Financial Implications

4.1 Risk

4.1.1 There are two forms of risk associated with this Strategy. The first risk is of not adopting the strategy which would have a detrimental effect on the Council's CPA and Use of Resources assessments and, secondly, during any procurement a risk analysis is undertaken as part of the options appraisal.

4.2 Financial

4.2.1 This strategy complements the references made to achieving value for money through smarter procurement and will be seen as a key driver to obtain the efficiency gains necessary to achieve government targets, improve service delivery and achieve best value.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 None

6. Other Implications

a) Equalities: - this will promote equality and diversity in procurement practices and policies, providing information and advice to our suppliers as necessary.

b) Section 17, Crime & Disorder Act 1998: - None

c) Section 40, Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006: - None

d) Human Resources: - None

e) Human Rights: - None

f) Other: - None

7. Alignment to Council Priorities

7.1 All;- the strategy encompasses all the corporate priorities.

8. Ward/Community Affected

8.1 None

Background Papers

National Procurement Strategy

Sustainable Procurement Task Force National Action Plan

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Key Decision Status (Executive Decisions only):

Non-Key

Appendices attached to this report:

Breckland's Sustainable Procurement and Commissioning Strategy