

REPORT TO:		Cabinet	
DATE:		20 March 2019	
PORTFOLIO:		Cllr Joyce Plummer - Resources	
REPORT AUTHOR:		Jane Ellis Executive Director (Legal & Democratic Services)	
TITLE OF REPORT:		Renewal of procurement strategy	
EXEMPT REPORT (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A)	No	Not applicable	
KEY DECISION:	No	If yes, date of publication:	

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 to seek approval to extend the Council's current procurement strategy for 2 years to enable the procurement implications of Brexit to be better understood prior to a new procurement strategy being prepared.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Council's Procurement Strategy 2014-18 be extended for two years to enable the procurement implications of Brexit to be better understood prior to a new procurement strategy being prepared.

3. Reasons for Recommendations and Background

- 3.1 The Council's existing Procurement Strategy covers the period 2014 – 2018 and is attached as an appendix to this report. The Strategy was approved by Cabinet in June 2014 and it established the following as the Council's procurement objectives:

Effective procurement:

- Delivering value for money by reducing costs whilst maintaining quality
- Reducing unnecessary bureaucracy and streamlining our processes
- Maintaining high standards of probity, transparency and legal compliance

Sustainable procurement:

- Supporting the local economy
- Protecting the environment
- Promoting a fairer society

3.2 The Strategy is now due for review and updating. However, there is some uncertainty about the direction of public procurement following Brexit and it seems sensible to delay this work until the implications of Brexit are better understood. For this reason it is suggested that the Procurement Strategy is extended to cover the period 2014 – 2020.

4. **Alternative Options considered and Reasons for Rejection**

4.1 There is no legal requirement to have a Procurement Strategy, so Cabinet could dispense with the Strategy completely. However, it is recognised good practice to have a procurement strategy as part of the Council’s approach to securing best value, so this is not recommended. Alternatively, Cabinet could request officers to review and update the Procurement Strategy now, rather than agreeing to the proposed delay. This is not recommended as it could lead to abortive work, as any strategy put in place now could need to be further reviewed and updated in the near future, post-Brexit.

5. **Consultations**

5.1 There have been no consultations to date, though consultation will take place as part of the review of the Procurement Strategy.

6. **Implications**

Financial implications (including any future financial commitments for the Council)	none
Legal and human rights implications	none
Assessment of risk	none identified
Equality and diversity implications <i>A Customer First Analysis should be completed in relation to policy decisions and should be attached as an appendix to the report.</i>	none identified

7. **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985:**
List of Background Papers

7.1 None

Appendix 1

Procurement Strategy 2014 – 18