

BARNSELEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

This matter is not a Key Decision within the Council's definition and has not been included in the relevant Forward Plan

Report of the Executive Director
Core Services

Social Value Policy & Council Wide Adoption

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 This report seeks approval and council wide adoption of the Social Value Policy.

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that Cabinet approve the council wide adoption of this new policy.

2.2 It is also recommended that Cabinet approve that the Executive Director Core act as a 'social value champion' and provide senior leadership support in respect of the implementation and ongoing development of the Social Value Policy and associated processes, documentation and reporting.

3. Introduction

3.1 The Public Services (Social Value Act 2012) places a duty on the authority to have regard to economic, social and environmental well-being in connection with public services contracts; and for connected purposes.

3.2 The Act puts a legal obligation on an authority to consider social value in all procurements that must comply with the Public Procurement Regulations 2015 and it should be considered in procurement below this threshold as good practice.

3.3 The authority currently doesn't have a Social Value Policy in place and therefore currently isn't complying with its legal duties under the act.

3.4 The introduction of policy and supporting processes and working practices will ensure that the authority maximise the expected strategic outcomes and best practice and gain benefit for the citizens of Barnsley. To this end the policy will align and support the council's corporate priorities, outcomes and Town Spirit themes.

4 Proposal and Justification

4.1 It is proposed that the authority implement a social value policy as it felt that council wide adoption wide will bring a number of benefits some of which are listed below:

- Use of local providers who keep more of our budget within the borough
- Employing local staff who will spend the money paid to them locally
- Use of local VCS and small private businesses will build up both the underdeveloped private sector and our traditionally small VCS sector. This will help develop their capacity to raise extra funds to come into the borough and also to bid for other work in and outside the borough

- Better encourage local consortia arrangements for VCS providers to work more effectively together to tender for work
- Maximise and encourage the use of corporate social responsibility for both small and large businesses by building this into our commissioning and procurement as a way to score more highly as part of the evaluation process. This could include sponsorship, donations of time, money and equipment etc. to community groups.
- Encouraging better use of businesses to provide apprenticeships, work placements and help to build the skills of tomorrow's workforce. It can also be used to support adults with additional needs or learning disabilities to be economically active or to volunteer with support.

5. Consideration of Alternative Proposals

- 5.1 Do Nothing – this is not a viable option as it would mean that BMBC was not complying with its legal obligation under the Social Value Act 2012. Neither would we be developing the outcomes associated with social value related good practice.

6. Implications for Local People and Service Users

- 6.1 The implication is positive for Barnsley in that the introduction of a Social Value Policy and procedures will put greater emphasis on the economic, environmental and social benefits associated with procurement activity.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications

8. Employee Implications

- 8.1 There are no direct employee implications.

9. Communications Implications

- 9.1 The intention is to develop a council wide launch and implementation with a working theme of 'making it real' to ensure that as an authority we properly embrace social value as business as usual. This will need to be supported by an effective communications plan.

10. Consultations

- 10.1 The policy was developed by a cross functional working group ensuring that consultation and input has been gathered from all directorates within the authority. In addition consultation with other regional and national local authorities has taken place to gather knowledge and learn best practice. In addition we have also engaged with selected providers to understand what social value tools are available to assist our approach going forward.

11. The Corporate Plan and the Council's Performance Management Framework

- 11.1 The introduction of the policy will assist with the corporate priority to create more and better jobs by supporting local providers and small private businesses thereby promoting increased employment opportunities and local spend.

- 11.2 The implementation into the procurement process will result in the requirement to see providers committing more to supporting our aim to increase skills to get more people working via training and apprenticeship places.
- 11.3 The introduction of the policy also supports our corporate aim to develop stronger and more resilient communities via the increased emphasis on voluntary and community work.
- 11.4 Similarly the introduction of the policy cuts across the vast majority of the newly introduced Town Spirit themes, specifically supporting the Build IT, Love It, Achieve It, Live It and Develop It themes.

12. Promoting Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

- 12.1 Diversity will be promoted via the introduction of this policy in that the procurement process will encourage increased participation from SMEs and the voluntary sector by giving more credit to social value outcomes in the evaluation criteria.
- 12.2 Inclusion will be promoted via the introduction of this policy as it will encourage the development of voluntary and community group activity as well as improving skills and training for people seeking employment.

13. Tackling the Impact of Poverty

- 13.1 There are no direct implications.

14. Tackling Health Inequalities

- 14.1 There are no direct implications.

15. Reduction of Crime and Disorder

- 15.1 There are no direct implications

16. Risk Management Issues

Risk Detail	Probability and Impact	Score	Mitigation
Failure to have a Social Value Policy could increase the likelihood of loss of reputation. It might be viewed negatively by both citizens of Barnsley and the supply chain if we appear to be not recognising and developing social value related outcomes.	Probability - Low Impact - Medium	5 (green)	Approve the policy and then support it through and effective implementation and communications plan. Ensure that social value becomes business as usual for the authority.

17. Health, Safety and Emergency Resilience Issues

17.1 There are no direct implications.

18. Compatibility with the European Convention on Human Rights

18.1 There are no direct implications.

19. Conservation of Biodiversity

19.1 There are no direct implications.

20. Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

20.1 Not used.

21. List of Appendices

Appendix A - Social Value Policy
Appendix B – Future Council 2020 Outcomes

22. Details of Background Papers

If you would like to inspect background papers for this report, please email governance@barnsley.gov.uk so that appropriate arrangements can be made

Officer Contact: Chris Arnold
Date: 11/01/18

Financial Implications/
Consultation 
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Signed N Mason Date 16.01.2019
<i>(to be signed by senior Financial Services Officer where no financial implications</i>