



<b>Subject:</b>	Inclusive Growth: Update on the development of a Social Value Procurement Framework and an Ethical Procurement Policy
<b>Date:</b>	22 May 2020
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John Walsh, City Solicitor / Director of Legal & Civic Services
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Noleen Bohill, Head of Commercial and Procurement Services; Christine Robinson, Strategy, Policy and Partnership Manager

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
<b>After Committee Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>After Council Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Some time in the future</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Never</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Call-in</b>	
<b>Is the decision eligible for Call-in?</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	The purpose of this report is provide an update on the development of a programme of work related to Social Value and Ethical Procurement as part of the Inclusive Growth Strategy.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	It is recommended that Members <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• note the work that is being undertaken in relation to Social Value and Ethical Procurement.</li></ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
	<u>Background</u>

<p>3.1</p> <p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p>	<p>Members agreed a Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Beattie in January 2019 on the development of a social value strategy to further social, environmental and economic goals of Belfast City Council and will be aware that work is continuing on the development of an Inclusive Growth Strategy as part of the Belfast Agenda.</p> <p>At the SP&amp;R Committee on 20 January Members agreed to the establishment of a task and finish Social Value Working Group for Members which would meet bi-monthly. The officer working group is comprised of staff from each department and chaired by John Walsh, the City Solicitor, who has been appointed Senior Responsible Officer.</p> <p>The work programme is being led by officers from the Strategic Hub and Commercial and Procurement Services and involves officers from each department.</p>
<p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p> <p>3.6</p>	<p><b><u>Social Value Procurement Framework</u></b></p> <p>The officer working group has begun work on the establishment of a draft Social Value Procurement Framework governing how social value could be incorporated into the Council's procurement and contractual processes.</p> <p>The draft framework will be agreed through Committee before being issued for public consultation. This will be the central policy document establishing meaningful criteria sitting at the heart of contractual relations with third parties and which will have measurable/reportable outcomes.</p> <p>It is proposed that the framework will be developed in such a way as to allow a phased approach which could be integrated with and provide support to the city and organisational recovery plans being developed to address the effects of the pandemic. Therefore we will looking to prioritise those aspects of a framework which will contribute to the recovery programme focussing on and jobs/skills and maximising spend, insofar as possible, within the district with a view to supporting business and impacted sectors.</p> <p>Cross departmental engagement has taken place and is now being considered in the context of the draft framework. Engagement with other public sector bodies in the district has taken place and will continue.</p>
<p>3.7</p>	<p><b><u>Ethical Procurement Policy</u></b></p> <p>Alongside this work, officers are working on the development of an Ethical Procurement Policy to ensure that all goods, works and services the council procures are sourced ethically in terms of both the way the council procures and the standards that we expect our suppliers, service providers and contractors to meet.</p>

3.8	A number of local authorities, including Manchester City Council, have adopted similar policies over the past number of years. Many of these policies are based upon the principles of the Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) Base Code - an internationally recognised code of labour practice founded on the conventions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).
3.9	The principles contained within the ETI Base Code include freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining; no discrimination; employment is freely chosen; working conditions are safe; good health is promoted; working hours are not excessive; minimum wages; regular employment is provided; training is provided; a disputes procedure is in place, child labour is eliminated; no inhumane treatment is allowed, acting with integrity and transparency.
3.10	It is proposed that Belfast City Council begin work to develop a similar policy which could also act as an umbrella policy for a range of existing obligations, including our obligations under the Modern Slavery Act, Whistle Blowing, Living Wage, Ethical Employment Standards and Sustainability/Climate Change.
3.11	It is planned that a detailed update will be brought back to Party Leaders' Forum shortly.
3.12	<u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u> None.
3.13	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> Any equality, good relations or rural needs implications will be determined as part of the equality screening process.
4.0	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	None