

Select Committee – Social Value Update

23 February 2022

Wolverhampton Pound

5 key objectives;

1. Retaining and growing local wealth prioritising local spend
2. **Embedding social value in the city leverage local spend and employment**
3. Leading the green transition
4. Supporting growth in health and wellbeing economy
5. Growing and promoting cultural creative city

Social Value Policy and Legislation

- Government's intentions for post EU public procurement were outlined in the Transforming Public Procurement Green Paper published in December 2020.
- The green paper was followed by the National Procurement Policy Statement (NPPS) in June 2021 which sets out that all contracting authorities should consider the following national priority outcomes alongside any additional local priorities in their procurement activities:
 - creating new businesses, new jobs and new skills;
 - tackling climate change and reducing waste, and
 - improving supplier diversity, innovation and resilience.
- The Levelling Up White Paper published in January 2022 places social value and procurement as a key enabler of Government ambitious to increase productivity and reduce regional inequalities.

Developing a New Approach

- Social Value Strategy – The strategy will outline a set of social value outcomes, aligned to the key priorities of the Council Plan.
- Social Value Framework - The framework will set out the Council's priorities and some of the activities that we would like to see from contractors when developing their social value proposals. This will include financial proxy values for these activities to ensure an objective and transparent approach to scoring of social value.
- Social Value Toolkit - A bespoke toolkit providing information about further tools, guidance and contacts that may be helpful in supporting potential contractors to develop meaningful social value proposals.
- Refreshed City Charter - The Wolverhampton City Charter was launched by City Board in 2013 and sets out key priorities for procurement and commissioning activity in the city. As part of the new approach to social value the charter will be refreshed.

Working Principles

- Targeted - Social value approach must align and support delivery of the outcomes in the Council Plan.
- Efficient – The resources the Council and stakeholders spend on identifying, requesting, assessing, securing and monitoring additional social value should be proportionate to the additional Social Value that could be secured.
- Fair and Inclusive – Particular efforts should be made to encourage and support applications from a diverse range of individuals and organisations.
- Objective and Consistent – Robust financial proxy values alongside clear qualitative criteria for scoring and assessment so that there is a consistent approach to decisions.
- Transparent – The social value framework will be documented and published setting out, how social value will be assessed.
- Monitored – Social value requirements are consistently and routinely monitored through an embedded system of robust contract management.

Next Steps

- The new social value approach will go to Cabinet in June 2022.