

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Scrutiny Board 14 June 2022
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Report title	City of Wolverhampton Select Committee 2022 - The Wolverhampton Pound - Procurement, Contract Management and Commissioning	
Decision designation	AMBER	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Paula Brookfield Governance and Equalities	
Key decision	Yes	
In forward plan	Yes	
Wards affected	All	
Accountable Director	David Pattison	
Originating service	Governance	
Accountable employee	Julia Cleary	Scrutiny and Systems Manager
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Report to be/has been considered by	Core Services	9 March 2022
	Public Health Leadership Team	16 March 2022
	Joint Adults, Children's Leadership Team	17 March 2022
	Regeneration Leadership Team	22 March 2022
	Strategic Executive Board	17 May 2022
	Cabinet Member for Governance and Equalities	18 May 2022 31 May 2022
	Cabinet Member for City Economy	
	Leader	30 May 2022
	Scrutiny Board	14 June 2022
	Cabinet	6 July 2022
	Council	20 July 2022

Recommendation for decision:

Scrutiny Board is recommended to:

1. Endorse the recommendations in the action plan attached at Appendix 2 prior to consideration by Cabinet on 6 July 2022.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 Council is asked to endorse the recommendations contained in Appendix 2.
- 1.2 Timescales for implementation of the recommendations will be agreed with the action owners following endorsement of the recommendations by Council.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 To re-energise political structures and increase Councillor involvement and influence in decision making processes, a trial Select Committee in relation to The Wolverhampton Pound, was commenced in October 2021.
- 2.2 To support this trial the Council sought input from expert witnesses both internal and external to gather feedback and help shape the recommendations.
- 2.3 The Select Committee comprised a cross-party group of councillors working together to gather information and evidence in relation to an agreed line of inquiry.
- 2.4 The Select Committee was non-political in its approach and met in public to hear evidence from officers, partner organisations, community groups and individuals.
- 2.5 The Select Committee pursued the goals of equality, diversity, and inclusion in relation to witnesses, membership and the work undertaken.
- 2.6 The Terms of Reference were as follows:

To consider the following lines of inquiry:

- *'How do we engage with local businesses and the community and voluntary sector in relation to procurement, contract management and commissioning and how do we ensure inclusivity, equality and value for money in these approaches?'*
- *How do we engage with partners, local businesses and the community and voluntary sector to make the City a catalyst for change by ensuring that all contracts reflect our values in areas such as climate change, equality, diversity and inclusion, retaining and growing local wealth and having a real presence in the City?'*

- 2.7 The following meetings were held as part of the Select Committee process:

Meeting Topic	Date of Meeting
Community Wealth Building	24 November 2021
Procurement Finance and Commercial	8 December 2021
Commissioning	15 December 2021
Business Support	12 January 2022
Review outputs to date and focus areas for	1 February 2022

recommendations in draft report.	
Engagement Events – Local Businesses	3 February 2022
Community and Voluntary Sector	16 February 2022
Final Select Committee – Procurement And Contract Management	23 February 2022
Care/ Commissioning Provider Engagement	Feedback sought via survey

3.0 Progress, options, discussion, etc.

- 3.1 The Select Committee agreed the final draft of the report at the meeting on 23 February 2022 which is now presented to Council for endorsement.

4.0 Evaluation of alternative options

- 4.1 The Select Committee considered a range of evidence and information when considering and agreeing it's findings and recommendations from a diverse range of stakeholders, partners and providers.
- 4.2 The draft report has been shared and discussed with stakeholders for comment and amendments made where appropriate to ensure that the recommendations are realistic and achievable.

5.0 Reasons for decision

- 5.1 The recommendations and findings contained in the report show that with a progressive approach to procurement and contract management, comes innovation, creativity and the commissioning of services and products that are right for our City and our citizens. One size does not fit all and good communication and engagement with our partners, the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS), existing suppliers, and potential suppliers will allow us to ensure that we are procuring the right goods and the rights services in the right way for us.

6.0 Financial implications

- 6.1 Councillors are simply requested to endorse the action plan, approving the recommendations contained within in principle. At this stage it is anticipated that no additional costs will be incurred in pursuit of many of the recommendations. There are some, however, where associated financial implications may emerge. One such recommendation is that resources for the Wolverhampton Pound initiative are reviewed by officers and that additional capacity is identified to ensure delivery against this key priority. In these cases the assessment of financial implications and identification of any

required funding will follow normal process and details will be incorporated in future updates to Councillors. [GE/31052022/B]

7.0 Legal implications

- 7.1 The Council must ensure that it complies with Local Government Law and Procurement Regulations when implementing the action plan.

SZ/06062022/P

8.0 Equalities implications

- 8.1 There are no direct Equalities implications arising from the report. Any equality, diversity and inclusion implications in pursuit of these recommendations will be identified in future reports to Councillors.

9.0 Appendices

- 9.1 Appendix 1: The Wolverhampton Pound Select Committee Report
- 9.2 Appendix 2: The Wolverhampton Pound Select Committee Action Plan