

Procurement Strategy 2021-24

Welcome to our 3-year Procurement Strategy. This strategy outlines our priorities for 2021-24 and shows how Procurement will contribute towards the attainment of the South Tyneside Vision 2011-31 objectives as well as South Tyneside Community Priorities.

generating additional revenue for the Council, early payment results in improved cash flow for our Suppliers.

The Council is well placed as an Anchor Institution, to promote opportunities for SMEs, employee owned businesses, social enterprises and other community based or owned businesses, which in turn will help support the aim of recirculating wealth and surplus locally, but primarily, within the borough of South Tyneside. Procurement can be used as a catalyst to engage with other Anchor Institutions, to explore and incorporate this programme within their organisations. The development of strong links with other Procurement can Council is well placed as an

contracting authorities to support to the Governments strategic priorities for public procurement, including:

- Reinvigorate the UK economy post-Covid and post-Brexit;
- Focus on Social Value, in particular the creati

- 1.1. To maintain an open approach to the renewal of contracts and the identification of requirements, consider all options, for the provision of the required goods, services or works;
- 1.2. Ensure that, wherever possible, specifications are not restrictive and are based upon the anticipated outcome/output of the contract;
- 1.3. Continue to ensure that the specification includes a properly aggregated requirement for the whole Council and any partner authorities or organisations;
- 1.4. Encourage suppliers to offer creative/innovative solutions and added value to requirements;
- 1.5. Maximise access for suppliers to encourage greater competition, increased efficiency and sustainable supply chains. Where appropriate consider the use of lots to potentially benefit SME suppliers and increase local spend;
- 1.6. Develop procurement pipelines to aid with market development and further support local suppliers and economic recovery;
- 1.7. Continue to work in collaboration with regional partners such as North East Procurement Organisation (NEPO) and other relevant public sector organisations, such as neighbouring Councils and Crown Commercial Services, to maximise output;
- 1.8. Award contracts on criteria which emphasise Value for Money including Social Value and whole life costs rather than lowest price;
- 1.9. Measure our success in meeting these objectives.

2. Social Responsibilities

- 2.1. Work within the boundaries of UK Procurement Law

- 2.2.7. We will continue to publish our Contracts Register and contact details for each contract, on the Council website;
- 2.2.8. We will increase the level of contact with local companies by working alongside organisations such as, NEPO Business Club and other Public Sector bodies to sponsor and support meet the buyer events and development seminars;
- 2.2.9. Working with local companies to enable them to develop and compete more effectively in securing work from the Council;
- 2.2.10. or deliverables from procurement exercises that form part of any contracts;
- 2.2.11. Promote transparency and improve understanding for suppliers, in relation to procurement processes.

2.3 Ethical sourcing practices: ensuring compliance with UK, EU and international standards, promoting fair trade and fair pricing policies and good employment practices, tackling corruption and compliance with the Modern Slavery Act 2015. The Council will:

- 2.3.1 Ensure through its procurement processes that its suppliers comply fully with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, wherever it applies;
- 2.3.2 Regularly review our contracted spending to identify any potential issues with modern slavery;
- 2.3.3 Consider termination of a contract with any supplier awarded a contract who is later found to be or has been in breach of the Modern Slavery Act 2015;
- 2.3.4 Take action where policies and procedures are not adhered to, including any discriminatory behaviour by suppliers, throughout the supply chain.

3. Clear and Transparent Communication

- 3.1. Continue to promote clear strategic leadership across the Council, involving elected Members, Service Leads and Officers, to ensure alignment with the Council plans, procurement priorities and the governance framework.
- 3.2. Ensure good communication and the promotion of opportunities are made accessible to the local Voluntary/Third Sector and that this is maintained.
- 3.3. Ensure that continuous communication and dialogue between Procurement and other council services is maintained, in order to improve service delivery and understanding of the procurement function.
- 3.4. Provide advice and guidance, in relation to contract management and supplier management, to promote compliance and increase visibility of contracts available.
- 3.5. Continue to maximise collaborative opportunities by considering benefits for all procurement activities.
- 3.6. Actively promote collaboration where appropriate in ord1 0 0 1 93.3 240.98 Tm0 g.98 Tf0.004W*nB

Useful Links:

[Procurement and doing business with the Council](#)

[Climate change - South Tyneside Council](#)

[Economic Recovery Plan - South Tyneside Council](#)

[South Tyneside Modern Slavery Statement](#)

[Equality and diversity policy - South Tyneside Council](#)

[North East Procurement Organisation - NEPO](#)