



Council name	COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL
Name and date of Committee	AUDIT COMMITTEE – APRIL 28 2022
Report Number	AGENDA ITEM 10
Subject	UPDATED PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
Wards affected	All
Accountable member	Cllr. Mike Every Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance
Accountable officer	Jenny Poole, Chief Finance Officer <a href="mailto:Jenny.Poole@cotswold.gov.uk">Jenny.Poole@cotswold.gov.uk</a>  01285 623313
Summary/Purpose	To present an updated draft Procurement and Contract Management Strategy as per the Internal Audit recommendation. The draft strategy covers updates on Social Value, Climate Emergency and Modern Slavery.
Annexes	Annex A – DRAFT PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
Recommendation(s)	<i>That the Proposed Procurement and Contract Management Strategy be approved prior to presentation at Cabinet.</i>
Corporate priorities	Procurement supports all Corporate Priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Delivering our services to the highest standards</li><li>• Responding to the challenges presented by the climate crisis</li><li>• Providing good quality social rented homes</li><li>• Presenting a local plan that's green to the core</li><li>• Helping residents and communities access the support they need for good health and wellbeing</li><li>• Supporting businesses to grow in a green, sustainable manner, and to provide high value jobs</li></ul>
Key Decision	NO
Exempt	NO
Consultees/ Consultation	Procurement and Commissioning Board.



**COTSWOLD**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL



## **BACKGROUND**

The revision of the current Procurement and Contract Management Strategy was partly in response to the Internal Audit recommendation as well as the Team recognising the importance of ensuring the Strategy incorporated the latest guidance from Government as well as Social Value and climate change.

### **1. MAIN POINTS**

- 1.1 Following Brexit Central Government advised that an overhaul of the 2015 Public Procurement Regulations would take place in September 2021. The Procurement team were waiting on this guidance before updating the current Procurement and Contract Management Strategy.
- 1.2 An update from Central Government in October 2021 confirmed that the review of the Public Procurement Regulations would not be published until 2023, at the earliest, which the Team felt was too long to wait for. Therefore the proposed Procurement and Contract Management Strategy was developed incorporating current relevant best practice as well as the latest information from Government. Depending on what comes out of the final guidance, further revisions to the Strategy may be required.

### **2. CONCLUSIONS**

- 2.1 The updated Procurement and Contract Management Strategy will ensure that Social Value and the climate change agenda are embedded in both the commissioning and procurement process.
- 2.2 The revised Strategy also reinforces the Councils Vision in regards demonstrating value for money through the effective commissioning and the procurement of goods, services and works.

### **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications from this report. However, compliance with the Councils Contract Rules will support the best use of taxpayers' money

### **4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no specific legal implications from the report or the Strategy, however the Council continues to have a legal duty to comply with the Publica Procurement Regulations.

### **5. RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 5.1 There is a potential risk that the Procurement and Contract Management Strategy may need to be further update when Central Government releases further guidance. The Procurement team will advise accordingly if updates are required.



## **6. EQUALITIES IMPACT**

6.1 There are no equalities implications from this report

## **7. CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 The Strategy has been revised to recognise the importance of climate change and the Council's local target to achieve 'Net Zero' or be 'Carbon Neutral' by 2030.

7.2 The strategy recognises that supply chains are the biggest contributor to the overall carbon output of local councils and advocates engaging with suppliers at the earliest opportunity to make climate intentions and ambitions clear at the pre-procurement stages is key to reducing the Councils carbon footprint.