

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....5th March 2009

1. Title of Item/Report

Sustainable Commissioning and Procurement Strategy

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that sought approval of a new Procurement Strategy for the Council, the current Strategy concluded in March 2009. The report also sought approval of changes to Contract Procedure Rules and related Responsibility for Functions.

It was explained that the purpose of the Sustainable Commissioning and Procurement Strategy was to define a strategic level approach to the way in which the Council commissioned and procured goods, services and works and to lay down a series of policy principles that guided all related activity. The strategy included details about context and how commissioning and procurement was currently organised within the Council, what the Council bought and how commissioning and procurement could be used to deliver other strategic objectives of the Council. The policy principles covered a number of generic areas as well as 3 specific spend categories.

Cabinet was provided with a copy of the strategy and a summary of the main changes.

It was noted that the review and renewal of the Sustainable Commissioning and Procurement Strategy had also provided the opportunity to review Contract Procedure Rules (CPR). These rules lay down the detailed procedural guidance of how commissioning and procurement should be undertaken. The CPR was part of the Constitution and included links to the Responsibility for Function - Scheme of Delegation.

The main purpose of the review was to update the 'language' of CPR to make it easier for Members and officers to understand and to ensure they met all legislative requirements (primarily the Public Contracts Regulations 2006). Cabinet was given details of other changes.

The Responsibilities for Functions had also been simplified and clarified

to make it easier for officers to understand what powers they had in relation to commissioning and procurement.

Members of Cabinet were provided with a copy of Contract Procedure Rules and the relevant part of the Responsibilities for Functions.

RESOLVED that

1. the new Sustainable Commissioning and Procurement Strategy 2009 – 2012 be approved.

RECOMMENDED to Council that:-

2. the revised Contract Procedure Rules (Part 4 of the Constitution – Rules of Procedure) be approved.

3. changes to Section 44 Scheme of Delegation (Part 3 of the Constitution – Responsibility for Functions) be approved.

3. Reasons for the Decision

The Council spent approximately £163m on procuring goods, services and works in 2007/8. The Sustainable Commissioning and Procurement Strategy identify a series of policy principles that guide those actions in order that the Council and partners maximise the value from all commissioning and procurement activity. The Contract Procedure Rules lay down, in more detail, how Council officers should undertake all commissioning and procurement activity.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

For resolution only - Midnight Friday 13th February 2009

Proper Officer  
10 March 2009