

Lancashire Combined Fire Authority

Resources Committee

Meeting to be held on 27 March 2024

Procurement Strategy

(Appendix 1 refers)

Contact for further information – (Steven Brown - Director of Corporate Services)
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Executive Summary

This three-year Procurement Strategy has been updated to set out our approach to procurement. It builds on the success of our previous strategy and supports the vision within our Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) 2022-2027.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to endorse the Procurement Strategy 2024 – 2027.

Information

The future and shape of procurement will change significantly as a result of the Government's paper 'Transforming Public Procurement' which aims to speed up and simplify procurement processes, place value for money at the heart of procurement, and unleash opportunities for small businesses, charities and social enterprises to innovate in public service delivery.

Effective contract and procurement management will be essential in order to become best in class in a process that involves all aspects of business operation and support. It will have a significant impact on the delivery of value for money and efficient use of resources; therefore, it is vital that all procurement activities are managed effectively, and procurement personnel are well trained and highly professional.

The delivery of our Procurement Strategy has given us a firm platform with robust processes and procedures to support the vision within our Community Risk Management Plan, supporting our communities and ensuring the cost-effective use of resources with efficient and effective procurement. We are already building on this platform by creating a positive procurement culture founded on sound business ethics. As a key enabler to business success, we now look to advance and build upon our procurement activities through our new Procurement Strategy.

This three-year Procurement Strategy builds on the success of our previous strategy and has given us a firm platform with robust processes and procedures to support the vision within our Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) 2022-2027. We are already building on this platform by creating a positive procurement culture founded on sound business ethics.

The Strategy reflects national and local policies and includes our approach to collaboration and partnerships, suppliers' fair working practices and ethicality,

sustainability, climate change, corporate social responsibility, and the development of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME) and third sector organisations.

Business risk

Effective procurement activity is an essential component in managing risks to the organisation.

Sustainability or Environmental Impact

The Fire Authority endeavours to purchase through contractors, service providers and suppliers who are committed to continuously working to improve environmental standards in the supply chain.

Equality and Diversity Implications

Promoting equality and diversity throughout the procurement process and supply chain is a crucial objective for the Authority. Fairness, transparency, honesty, integrity, impartiality, and objectivity must be evidenced in all procurement decisions.

Data Protection (GDPR)

Will the proposal(s) involve the processing of personal data? N

HR implications

None

Financial implications

None

Legal implications

Procurement activity will meet applicable legal requirements as set out in our standing orders and contract regulations.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of background papers

Paper: N/A

Date: N/A

Contact: N/A

Reason for inclusion in Part 2 if appropriate: Insert Exemption Clause