

Report to:	Cabinet Member - Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services	Date of Issue:	11 th August 2022
		Date of Decision:	19 th August 2022
Subject:	Social Value Policy		
Report of:	Assistant Director of Corporate Resources (Strategic Support)	Wards Affected:	All
Cabinet Portfolio:	Cabinet Member - Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

This report is to seek approval for the implementation of a Social Value Policy.

Recommendation(s):

Cabinet Member is requested to consider the draft Equalities Impact Assessment and subject to any comments from the Corporate Equalities Group approve the Social Value Policy at Appendix A.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To drive forward the benefits of delivering Social Value in Sefton.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

There are no alternative options.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs - nil

(B) Capital Costs - nil

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): There are no direct financial implications with this report.
Legal Implications: There are no direct legal implications with this report.
Equality Implications: Draft Equalities Impact Assessment is available at Annex

B.

Climate Emergency Implications:

This policy advocates social innovation to safeguard the environment and respond to the climate emergency.

This policy is complemented by several initiatives and policies including the Council's commitment to mitigating the impact of climate change, the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy (which covers ethical investment), commitment to eradicate Modern Slavery, Staff Volunteering Policy, the Digital Strategy and commitment to Sefton Crowd.

The recommendations within this report will

Have a positive impact	Y
Have a neutral impact	<u>N</u>
Have a negative impact	N
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	<u>Y</u>

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: NA
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: the policy will support local people into work and training opportunities
Commission, broker and provide core services: the policy will impact on all commissioned and provided activity.
Place leadership and influencer: Through the Council's commitment to social value, it will influence others to adopt similar approaches.
Drivers of change and reform: Through the Council's commitment to social value it is demonstrating a commitment to improving outcomes for local people and businesses.
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: the policy will support local businesses and local people.
Greater income for social investment: not applicable
Cleaner Greener the policy will support the encouragement of the wider delivery of the Climate Change agenda.

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD.6894/22.....) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD.5094/22....) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

Na. Following the approval of the policy communications and engagement activity will be broad.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting

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Appendices:

The following appendices are attached to this report:

Social Value Policy 2022 – 25

Equalities Impact Assessment

1. Background

1.1 The Council has already taken a number of positive steps to ensure that social value is delivered including

1.1.1 All Procurement staff have received Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply Ethical Accreditation, this training ensures that Procurement staff have built their understanding of how to behave ethically and establishes a commitment to ethical behaviour. The training is renewed annually to ensure they have knowledge of up to date good practice.

1.1.2 Standard Social Value questions are now embedded in strategic tenders, together with supporting information to advise Bidders what social value is and key local organisations and initiatives they can engage with to deliver social value. On occasions these social value questions have been customised with project specific outcomes attached.

1.1.3 In order to support Social Value evaluation a specialist application called Social Value Portal has been procured. This tool allows bidders to put forward proposals tied into specific Themes, Outcomes and Measures which are quantifiable against nationally recognised standards. We are currently trialling the implementation of Social Value Portal on two pilot projects. Once these are completed officers will review lessons learnt and roll out training to Procurement staff and Commissioners. Changes internally and at Social Value portal mean that this work has stalled and started again in 2022/23. Once Social Value Portal is live officers will create a web portal and communication plan to support Suppliers to respond to our Social Value expectations.

1.1.4 The implementation of Sefton Crowd which provides an online platform which allows and helps volunteers and community groups to create, promote and gain financial support from people across the borough and beyond. All money raised supports projects aimed at improving the borough and strengthening communities.

2. Social Value Policy

2.1 A draft policy has been developed to ensure that Social Value principles are applied in a way that enables the Council to maximise economic, social and environmental benefits for Sefton and its residents.

2.2 Social value can be explained as a commitment to using our influence and spending power to help drive inclusive economic growth, improve the local environment and address inequalities while ensuring the best possible value for money when purchasing goods and works.

2.3 By adopting this Social Value policy, the Council is confirming its commitment to local and national supply chains that SMBC want to do business with suppliers who have a strong people, environmental and ethical focus within their business.

- 2.4 Cabinet member is asked to consider the draft policy at Appendix A with the draft Equalities Impact Assessment at Appendix B and approve the policy for implementation, subject to any further comments from the Corporate Equalities Group.

- 2.5 Following approval of the policy the Council website will be updated, the Equalities Impact Assessment published and both internal and external communications undertaken.