

Performance and Overview Scrutiny Committee

Action List

18th November 2025

Minute Item:	Subject	Officer / Member	Outcome
4	To provide a written response about the use of dimmable technology in street lighting: whether it provides savings, and if it is being rolled out across the county	Deb Hill-Howells, Ben Callard	Response sent to members
4	To provide a 'ballpark' figure for the Council's dependency on grants, including breakdowns of core funding, at-risk funding, and agent-distributed grants	Jonathan Davies, Ben Callard	To provide as part of Grants scrutiny?*
6	For officers to have a follow-up discussion with Councillor Newell to explore improved identification and support regarding mental health	Matt Gatehouse	Sent to officers
8	To provide responses to the questions from members, listed below	Cath Fallon, Rhys James, Ben Callard	Responses below sent to members
10	To update members about a potential timeline for scrutinising grants, specifically the Shared Prosperity Fund	Peter Davies, Hannah Jones, Jonathan Davies	Requested*

Members' questions relating to Item 8 – Additional Business: 'Socially Responsible Procurement Strategy update'

1. What do "PTR" and "CAR" mean on page 6 of the SRPP?

PTR – Pre Tender Report; CAR Contract Award Report. These abbreviations have now been removed and the full description provided in the attached, revised Policy.

2. The document is aspirational; how will its success be measured – what about KPIs, and what will the mechanisms be for reporting back to the committee?

Page 22 of the Policy states that 'The Policy will be implemented through each Council's established Socially Responsible Procurement Strategy and Action Plan and assessed using standard KPI's. From 2026 delivery of the policy will be monitored and reported in each Council's annual performance report of its Socially Responsible Procurement Strategy' Paragraph 3.5 of the covering report also states: 'Delivery will be monitored and reported in the Council's annual self-assessment report of the

enabling strategies. The self-assessment report will be presented to the Committee for scrutiny.

3. How will the policy be monitored and reported back to the committee, given the mention of 'the 2026 policy to be monitored by council'?

Please refer to the response to Question 2 above.

4. Should there not be an Integrated Impact Assessment for the policy?

Paragraph 4.1 of the covering report states: An Equality and Future Generations Evaluation Assessment is not applicable in this case as there are no proposed changes to existing service delivery and policy. For further clarification, the Policy supplements the Socially Responsible Procurement Strategy for which an Integrated Impact Assessment was previously undertaken.

5. On page 8 of the SRPP, why is 'need' 5th out of 8 in identified priorities? Given that the residents are our customers, should we not find out the need from customers first? The emphasis does not suggest the correct priority to meet customer needs (and legal requirements to meet needs).

There is no hierarchy for the priorities or objectives. They are linked to the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act and as such are all equally important.

6. In the project process, why is 'plan' first – should the need not be defined first? Unless the diagram is misleading?

On page 11 of the Policy, the planning stage is prioritised within the procurement cycle. For instance, if the contract for printers is about to expire in three months, planning for re-procurement starts first. The specific needs of the Authority are then redefined based on recent assessments. Plan, Define, Procure, Manage is also the cycle outlined in Procurement Act 2023 guidance.

7. How does the policy support local small/medium-sized Enterprises and Social Enterprises, and what percentage of procurement spend is expected to be directed to these groups?

Supporting our local economy, including local SME's and Social Enterprises is one of our key socially responsible objectives. The Policy outlines our ambition to achieve this by:

- Promote our Contract Forward Plan to local businesses and increase the number of opportunities advertised through Sell2Wales.
- Actively promote opportunities for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and Voluntary and Community and Social Enterprises (VCSEs) to bid for work by, where appropriate, breaking down larger contracts into 'lots', reserving below threshold procurement for MSMEs/VCSEs, and carrying out pre-market engagement including market warming events

- Encourage our suppliers and contractors to support the local economy by using local businesses in their supply chains and local labour wherever possible to fulfil contract obligations and ensuring prompt payment.
- Encourage our suppliers and contractors in the transition to a more circular local economy by waste prevention, reducing waste and closing product and material loops through value retention within the resource hierarchy.
- Work with partners such as Business Wales, Business in Focus, Federation of Small Businesses and South Wales Chamber of Commerce to improve the skills of local SMEs to access public sector opportunities.
- Ensure that payments to contractors and throughout supply chain are made within 30-day payment terms.

Currently the percentage of spend with local businesses is 17.93%. However, work is planned with MCC's Business Support team to develop a profile of businesses in the County. An exercise will be undertaken to identify a full list of local preferred business partners to determine appropriate targets moving forward.