

## PEOPLE (ADULTS AND HEALTH) SCRUTINY PANEL

2 February 2017

### SOCIAL VALUE POLICY

#### Report of the Director for People

Strategic Aim:	Meeting the health and wellbeing needs of the community	
Exempt Information	No	
Cabinet Member(s) Responsible:	Mr R Clifton, Portfolio Holder for Health and Adult Social Care	
Contact Officer(s):	Karen Kibblewhite, Head of Commissioning	01572 758127 kkibblewhite@rutland.gov.uk

#### DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Panel:

1. Notes and provides any comments on the Social Value Policy as attached to this report.

#### 1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report introduces the new Social Value Policy for Rutland County Council for comment.

#### 2 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 came into force on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013 and requires all local authorities and public bodies to consider how they can secure social, economic and environmental benefits when undertaking procurements relating to contracts and framework agreements for services over the EU threshold.
- 2.2 Rutland County Council do not currently have a policy concerning social value in place to guide staff and ensure a consistent approach. This policy is therefore designed to bring consistency and formalise work which the Council is already undertaking.
- 2.3 The policy sets out the duties under the Act concerning Social Value, offers examples of how it may be applied and gives brief guidance to staff.

#### 3 APPLICATION OF THE POLICY

- 3.1 Social value is already being applied by the Council where legislation requires.

Social value is referred to within the Council's Contract Procedure Rules (Section 11) and this section explains that the Act is applicable to procurements relating to services over the EU threshold. Because procurements over the EU thresholds are managed by the Welland Procurement Unit (the Council's shared procurement service), advice on applying social value and ensuring that it is referenced within applicable procurements is supplied by Welland on a case by case basis.

- 3.2 Additionally, social value can be applied to procurements under the EU thresholds, should public bodies wish, however this is not consistently applied within Rutland County Council currently. This Policy suggests that the Council will phase in requirements of Social Value for all procurements undertaken in consultation with local providers.

#### **4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no specific financial implications from the approval and application of the policy. It should however, enable the Council to achieve more from its contracted services by requiring added value from providers and suppliers that is above and beyond the contract cost.

#### **5 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS**

- 5.1 The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 requires all local authorities and public bodies to consider how they can secure social, economic and environmental benefits when undertaking procurements relating to contracts and framework agreements for services over the EU threshold.
- 5.2 If RCC does not meet its duty to the Act, there is a reputational risk for RCC. The Cabinet Office undertakes Mystery Shopping of organisations to ensure that they are compliant and to require evidence of such.

#### **6 CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 The Social Value Policy has been developed in order to ensure that all officers have a consistent approach to social value during procurements.

#### **7 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 7.1 There are no additional background papers to this report.

#### **8 APPENDICES**

- 8.1 Appendix A – Social Value Policy

**A Large Print or Braille Version of this Report is available upon request – Contact 01572 722577.**