

# **JOINT FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY PORTFOLIO AND REGENERATION AND LIVEABILITY PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD 1 APRIL 2008**

The meeting commenced at 2.00 p.m. in the Belle Vue Community, Sports and Youth Centre, Hartlepool

## **Present:**

The Mayor, Stuart Drummond, Regeneration and Liveability Portfolio Holder  
Councillor Robbie Payne, Finance and Efficiency Portfolio Holder

Officers: Graham Frankland, Head of Procurement and Property Services  
Mic Bannister, Principal Procurement and Finance Officer  
David Cosgrove, Principal Democratic Services Officer

## **1. Sustainable Procurement Strategy** (*Head of Procurement and Property Services and Assistant Director (Planning and Economic Development)*)

### **Type of decision**

Non-key.

### **Purpose of report**

To provide an update on the progress made with the development of, and to seek endorsement of the Draft Sustainable Procurement Strategy.

### **Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder**

The Head of Procurement and Property Services reported that on 27th February 2008 the Portfolio Holder for Finance & Efficiency endorsed the revised Procurement Strategy for the Council for 2007 - 2010. The Procurement Strategy is significant in bringing together several national agendas and setting them in a local context.

During the preparation of the Procurement Strategy 2007-2010 it was identified that the sustainability considerations in procurement were significant enough to suggest that the Council should have a separate but linked Sustainable Procurement Strategy.

The relevance of sustainable procurement to Hartlepool is enhanced because of Hartlepool's:

- self-contained, peripheral nature,
- historic pattern of disadvantage,
- on going physical and economic transformation and
- expanding small business sector

All of which created a strong need and opportunity to identify effective means of procurement that allow opportunities for local enterprise and utilise measures which do not put further pressure on the Borough's environment and infrastructure.

A Draft of the Sustainable Procurement Strategy was submitted as Appendix 1 to the report. The Sustainable Procurement Strategy took account of both, guidance nationally, and the key principles identified in the Council's Procurement Strategy. Consultation with the Corporate Procurement Group has taken place in the development of the Strategy.

The Sustainable Procurement Strategy had a series key strategic objectives covering Engagement, Environmental and Socio-economic objectives and these were set out in detail in the report. The Head of Procurement and Property Services indicated that the strategy would be embedded within departments to ensure the best procurement practices were followed across the authority.

The two portfolio holders welcomed the strategy and consider it a vital tool in assisting local enterprise to develop and prosper in the town. The Portfolio Holders asked if the strategy would have some influence in the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme which was heavily prescribed by central government. The Principal Procurement and Finance Officer reported that 'Meet the Buyer' events for local businesses wishing to access general council contracts, and a specific event for the 'Hartfields Development' where local sub-contractors were introduced to the main contractor and developer, had proved very successful. A similar event could be held for sub contract elements of the BSF programme at the appropriate time. Members were also informed that local contractors were also signposted to wider contractor registers for the Tees Valley and the North East to give them greater opportunities to access contract opportunities.

### **Decision**

1. That both Portfolio Holders note and endorse the Draft Sustainable Procurement Strategy.
2. That the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Efficiency undertakes the role of Sustainable Procurement Champion.

**P DEVLIN**

**ACTING CHIEF SOLICITOR**

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