



**REPORT of
DIRECTOR OF STRATEGY AND RESOURCES**

**to
PERFORMANCE, GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE
7 MARCH 2024**

CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES EXTENSION

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to obtain approval for a one year extension to the Council's current Contract Procedure Rules, attached at **APPENDIX A**.
- 1.2 The Procurement Reform Bill has now been ratified. This is a request to extend the Contract Procedure Rules by a year so it can be updated to reflect the new legislation following implementation of the Procurement Act 2023 in October 2024.
- 1.3 There are no changes to the Contract Procedure Rules required as part of this report.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

To the Council:

That the Contract Procedure Rules (**APPENDIX A**) be extended for a further year.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The Council's procurement activity is governed by its Contract Procedure Rules and currently the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR 2015). While these set out the rules and legislation that must be followed when conducting procurement exercises.
- 3.2 The Council's Contract Procedure Rules were revised and approved by the Council in February 2021. The next review is due February 2024.
- 3.3 As a result of Brexit, a new Procurement Reform bill was introduced and following a number of readings and amendments. The bill received Royal Assent in October 2023 and is now set in Law as the Procurement Act 2023.
- 3.4 The Contract Procedure Rules will need some revisions and updates following implementation of the new Procurement Act 2023. Implementation of the Act will commence in March 2024 with an expected go live date of October 2024.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 By extending the review date by a year this gives the Council time to implement the new Procurement Act 2023 and ensure the Council's Contract Procedure Rules are updated to reflect where appropriate the new legislation.

5. IMPACT ON PRIORITIES AS SET OUT IN THE CORPORATE PLAN 2023 - 2027

- 5.1 The Contract Procedure Rules state, all purchasing, and disposal procedures must support the Council's corporate and departmental objectives, plan, and policies.
- 5.2 The Council's priorities are considered pre-procurement for each contract and applied in a proportionate and relevant manner to the subject matter of the contract.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – None arising from this report.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – None arising from this report.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk (including Fraud implications)** – None arising from this report.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – None arising from this report.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – None arising from this report.

Background Papers: **APPENDIX A** Contract Procedure Rules 2021.

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