



## Report of the Procurement Scrutiny Inquiry Panel

Cabinet – 16 June 2022

### Scrutiny Inquiry into Procurement

<b>Purpose:</b>	This report presents the findings, conclusions and recommendations resulting from the Scrutiny Panel's Inquiry into Procurement. Cabinet must consider the recommendations made by the Procurement Scrutiny Inquiry Panel and agree action.
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	Council Constitution.
<b>Consultation:</b>	Legal, Finance, Access to Services
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	It is recommended that:  1) Cabinet receives the report and tasks the relevant Cabinet Member to report back to a Cabinet meeting with a written response to the scrutiny recommendations and proposed action(s) for Cabinet decision.
<b>Report Authors:</b>	Councillor Chris Holley Michelle Roberts
<b>Finance Officer:</b>	Paul Cridland
<b>Legal Officer:</b>	Debbie Smith
<b>Access to Services Officers:</b>	Rhian Millar/Catherine Window

#### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report presents the findings, conclusions and recommendations resulting from the Scrutiny Inquiry into Procurement. The Scrutiny Panel's final report, appended, requires a Cabinet decision.
- 1.2 In accordance with the Council Constitution reports from Scrutiny to the Executive are presented to a Cabinet meeting. The convener of the Panel Cllr Chris Holley will attend to present the report and accompanying recommendations.

## **2.0 Scrutiny Programme Committee**

2.1 Within the Scrutiny Work Programme, the Scrutiny Programme Committee established an Inquiry Panel to look into Procurement, and appointed Councillors to the Panel to plan and carry out this work, gather evidence, consider findings, and prepare a report for Cabinet. On 15 March 2022 the Scrutiny Programme Committee discussed and agreed the report for submission to Cabinet.

## **3.0 Cabinet Decision**

3.1 At this meeting the role of the Cabinet is to receive the report and task the relevant Cabinet Member to prepare a written response on behalf of Cabinet. The Cabinet Member's response report should ordinarily be scheduled for a future Cabinet meeting **no later than two months** following formal receipt of the scrutiny report. It is acknowledged that with Council Elections taking place in May 2022, there may be a delay to Cabinet's decision.

3.2 In their response report the Cabinet Member should recommend approval or rejection of each of the scrutiny recommendations together with an explanation. Within their report the Cabinet Member should also provide a proposed action plan to show what steps are being or will be taken to implement recommendations. Cabinet will then make a decision on the Cabinet Member's response report.

## **4.0 Follow Up**

4.1 The Inquiry Panel will schedule a follow up on progress with the implementation of the action plan agreed by Cabinet and impact of the scrutiny inquiry and report their views to the Scrutiny Programme Committee. The Panel convener and the Scrutiny Officer will ensure that a review of progress against accepted recommendations is scheduled into future work programmes. Usually, a progress report will be requested by the Panel within 6-12 months after the action plan has been agreed by Cabinet.

## **5.0 Integrated Assessment Implications**

5.1 The Council is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, and must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Acts.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socio-economic disadvantage.
- Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language.
- Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.

- Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

5.1.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the 'well-being goals'.

5.1.2 Our Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) process ensures we have paid due regard to the above. It also takes into account other key issues and priorities, such as poverty and social exclusion, community cohesion, carers, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and Welsh language.

5.2 There are no impact assessment implications associated with this report. Equality and engagement issues were formally considered at the scoping stage of this inquiry and borne in mind by the Panel throughout evidence gathering. The Cabinet Member will need to ensure that implications are considered via application of the corporate Integrated Impact Assessment process when considering the response to the recommendations.

## **6.0 Legal Implications**

6.1 There are no specific legal implications at this stage.

## **7.0 Financial Implications**

7.1 There are no financial implications to this report. Any potential implications will be outlined in the Cabinet response.

**Background Papers:** None.

**Appendices:** Appendix A – Final Inquiry Report.

Appendix B – Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)