

<b>MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY</b>			
<b>MEETING OF THE:</b>	<b>POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE</b>		
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>17 SEPTEMBER 2015</b>	<b>REPORT NO:</b>	<b>CFO/071/15</b>
<b>PRESENTING OFFICER</b>	<b>JANET HENSHAW</b>		
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b>	<b>JANET HENSHAW</b>	<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	<b>SHARON MATTHEWS</b>
<b>OFFICERS CONSULTED:</b>	<b>WENDY KENYON – DIVERSITY &amp; CONSULTATION MANAGER STEWART WOODS – HEAD OF ESTATES</b>		
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>PROCUREMENT STRATEGY</b>		

<b>APPENDICES:</b>	<b>APPENDIX 1:</b>	<b>2015-18 PROCUREMENT STRATEGY</b>
	<b>APPENDIX 2:</b>	<b>PROCUREMENT SOCIAL VALUE POLICY</b>
	<b>APPENDIX 3:</b>	<b>EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT</b>

### **Purpose of Report**

1. To request that Members adopt a new Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority Procurement Strategy and associated Policy attached at Appendix 1 and 2.

### **Recommendation**

2. That Members;
  - a. Approve the 2015 – 18 Procurement Strategy and
  - b. Approve the Procurement Social Value Policy.

### **Introduction and Background**

3. A new Procurement Strategy has been drafted which sets out the role of procurement within the Authority, and defines procurement priorities for the period 2015-18.
4. The Strategy is applicable to all procurement and commissioning activity within MFRA. The Strategy acknowledges and takes cognisance of the regulatory framework within which the Authority works as well as best practice in the field.
5. A Procurement Social Value Policy has also been developed. This supercedes 2 existing policies (Equality & Diversity in Procurement and Sustainable Procurement) and is wider reaching than previous policies because it takes account of the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.
6. The Act requires all public bodies in England and Wales, including Local Authorities, to consider how the services they commission and procure might improve the socio-economic and environmental well-being of the communities

in which the public services are delivered. The policy defines objectives and actions which MFRA will take to adhere to the Act.

---

### **Equality and Diversity Implications**

---

7. An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and approved by the Diversity & Consultation Manager. A copy is attached for reference (Appendix 3).

---

### **Staff Implications**

---

8. Procurement staff have been appraised of the new Strategy and Policy and are supportive of its introduction. No resource implications have been identified, and any support to staff will be provided by the Head of Procurement.

---

### **Legal Implications**

---

9. The Strategy and Policy have been written to ensure compliance with relevant European procurement legislation, the Public Contracts Regulations (2015), the Equality Act (2010) and the Social Value Act (2012).
10. The Strategy and Policy also take account of existing governance arrangements such as Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders.

---

### **Financial Implications & Value for Money**

---

11. There are no direct costs arising from this report.
12. The Strategy makes it clear that all procurement activity is carried out to ensure Value for Money, and that appropriate evaluation criteria must be applied to achieve this.
13. Value for Money can be achieved by the consistent use of corporate contracts, effective collaboration and the use of technology to streamline procurement processes.

---

### **Risk Management, Health & Safety, and Environmental Implications**

---

14. The Strategy outlines the procurement approach to risk management. Effective and timely contract management, sound business continuity arrangements in the supply chain and open, fair and transparent procurement practices are all means by which to reduce risk. Improved risk management processes have recently been introduced to underpin the approach outlined in the Strategy.
15. Environmental considerations have been taken account of in the Strategy and the Policy. The Policy document outlines the expectations the Authority has for its supply chain.

---

Contribution to Our Mission: *Safer Stronger Communities – Safe Effective Firefighters*

---

16. The new Strategy and Policy positively contribute to the achievement of the Authority's mission. The Policy's overarching objectives are to promote employment and support economic sustainability in the local area.

---

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

---

NONE

---

**GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

---

NONE