

**BUSINESS CASE**

**Appendix 7 - Community Benefits Officer Funding**

<b>Senior Accountable Officer</b>	Jackie Buchanan, Director of Legal and Democratic Services
<b>Project Lead</b>	Procurement Manager
<b>PID Status</b>	1
<p><b>There is a legislative requirement in defined in the <a href="#">Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014</a> for each contacting authority to impose a community benefits requirement on above threshold contracts</b></p> <p><b>Angus Council should maximise use of community benefits for both its suppliers and the people who live and work in Angus</b></p> <p><b>Council Plan Alignment</b> Engage with Angus businesses through a regular programme to understand their needs and develop our services appropriately</p>	<p><b>Rationale</b> The Social Value Portal is a portal set up to promote better business and community wellbeing through the integration of social value into day-to-day business. It defines Community Benefits as “Community benefits are <b>tangible, positive outcomes which improve the lives of local people and enable communities to thrive</b>. They are vital for boosting employment and skills, securing the long-term sustainability of facilities and contributing to cleaner, greener spaces for people to live, work and grow within”</p> <p>Scottish Government state that Community benefit requirements are defined in the <a href="#">Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014</a> as a contractual requirement imposed by a contracting authority, (which includes a Council):</p> <p>a) relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• training and recruitment</li> <li>• availability of sub-contracting opportunities</li> </ul> <p>b) or which is otherwise intended to improve the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of the authority’s area in a way additional to the main purpose of the contract in which the requirement is included.</p> <p>All public sector contracting authorities are required to consider including community benefit requirements for all regulated procurements where the estimated value of the contract is equal to or greater than £4 million. Their use does not need to be limited to procurements of this value as research has shown that community benefits can be achieved in procurements under the £4 million threshold.</p> <p>Community benefits have contributed to a range of national and local outcomes relating to employability, skills and tackling inequalities by focusing on under-represented groups. The Act aims to achieve the maximum use of these requirements in public procurement.</p> <p>Use of community benefit requirements may also demonstrate compliance with the sustainable procurement duty which applies to all regulated procurements in Scotland and requires that before a contracting authority buys anything, it must think about how it can improve the social, environmental and economic wellbeing of the area in which it operates, with a particular focus on reducing inequality.</p> <p><b>Main Job Purpose</b> Community benefits officer Responsible for the overall Inclusive Economic Growth and Community Benefits strategy, its continuing development and delivery across all Angus projects and procurements.</p>

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<p>Work across Angus Council to make it easier, quicker and better to do business and invest in Angus</p> <p>Provide educational and social experiences that stretch and challenge our young people</p> <p>Support and equip our citizens to deliver on their local aspirations</p> <p>Procurement Best Value</p> <p>Redesign of services relevant to new and changing need</p>	<p>To train and empower council employees with devolved procurement authority to maximise community benefits opportunities within Angus. Particular focus on the energetic design, implementation and continuous improvement of a unique and innovative strategy that yields significant business, employment, training and other benefits to participants and communities.</p> <p>At meet the buyer events throughout 2019, feedback from suppliers on community benefits highlighted challenges suppliers had in understanding and delivering relevant community benefits within contracts. They also highlighted the need for monitoring and feedback on community benefits post tender award.</p> <p>Suppliers are spending a lot of resource at tender stage when community benefits are required and would benefit from feedback on the quality of the community benefits submissions.</p> <p>Maximising the benefits of community benefits would prove beneficial by creating job and training opportunities within Angus, as well as supporting third sector organisations to deliver to our communities.</p> <p>Building wealth and empowering our communities through our Community wish list model based on Perth and Kinross Council's award-winning community wish list model. This Wish List is compiled from requests made by community groups based on what would be of benefit to them. This was started Pre Covid but due to resources being diverted on to Key Supplier Support this project has stalled. There are significant quick wins to be had for Angus Council, Suppliers and Third Sector if restarted and successfully delivered.</p> <p>Community benefits are a legislatively required part of above threshold procurement. Community Benefits and Wealth Building was identified as a key deliverable for Procurement in 2020, however resource was redirected due to Key Supplier Support (a new requirement due to Covid) which meant this deliverable had not been met.</p> <p>Making contracting and grants more effective at tackling local need.</p>
<p>Purpose</p>	<p>The aims of this project are:</p> <p><b>1 To make it easier for local businesses to contract with Angus Council;</b> Our current community benefits guidance is difficult to find, overly complicated and hard to implement,</p> <p>We aim to develop an easy effective guide and training for suppliers to make tendering with community benefits offerings easier.</p> <p><b>2 To maximise benefits to the community through leveraging spend.</b> Angus Council has around £110 million of spend per annum that could be used to ensure delivery of community benefits. We currently receive some</p>

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community benefits but those that we do aren't monitored for effectiveness. By involving the community in designing what they need we ensure that suppliers efforts are creating maximum impact with wider community groups.

#### **3 To Train and upskill Angus Council officers.**

We want to ensure those that have devolved spend authority fully understand how to implement community benefits and have a toolkit they can use when writing a specification to maximise offerings without the process becoming overly complex for staff or for suppliers

#### **4 To Create a Community Benefits Wishlist.**

Based on the Perth and Kinross Council model for which they won a "Go Award", we are looking to create a simple way for community groups to inform suppliers of what would be most effective for them. This will give suppliers an easy way to incorporate community benefits, and make it simpler for Angus Council to track, as well as helping community groups participate in decided what they wish to receive. This will be especially effective on lower value contracts which we have never been able to use for community benefits previously.

#### **5. Track and monitor Community Benefits via Hanlon system**

Angus Council purchased the Hanlon system to track community benefits but it has not been fully used. It will allow us to analyse how community benefits are working to give us a baseline to enable target setting.

#### **Strategic Objectives (including SOAP)**

#### **We want Angus to be a 'go-to' area for businesses**

The simpler, easier and less resource intensive we make our tendering process, the more companies will compete to become suppliers.

By having a clear and effective community benefits process we can encourage suppliers to do business with Angus Council.

#### **Tay Cities Deal**

The Tay City Deals Community Benefits approach is committed to securing maximum social and economic benefits from the deals procured activity and seeks to:

- Consider the inclusion of community benefits in all relevant procurement activities, but prioritise resources at those with most likelihood of delivering an impact
- Expand types of Community Benefit outcomes based on lessons learnt from partners activity
- Support the development of the partnership infrastructure which supports contractors to achieve their outcomes
- Invest in the development of the current monitoring system to record Community Benefit activity more efficiently and better target resources.

This role would also support these targets

#### **We want to maximise inclusion and reduce inequalities**

Community benefits largely go to third sector organisations. Through providing these organisations and education areas with

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	<p>funding/goods/services/training/opportunities they may not otherwise have access to, we are getting help to those areas most in need.</p> <p>Examples of community benefits are</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Supplying a charity with printers that an organization was going to replace.</li> <li>2. Letting school children visit a contractor's plant and talking about career opportunities with them.</li> <li>3. Providing first aid training free of charge to a charity, enabling them to spend their money on direct benefits for users.</li> </ol>
<b>Project Scope</b>	A 23 month Community Benefits Officer Role to improve our community benefits programme for Council, Suppliers and Third sector beneficiaries to allow us to measure the return on investment for this role and embed community benefit into our processes.
<b>Project Deliverables</b>	<p>Increase Community Benefits offering</p> <p>Develop and Implement a community Benefits Wishlist</p> <p>Use Hanlon to monitor community benefits</p> <p>Train Internal staff and suppliers to understand and implement Community Benefits</p> <p>Develop Monitoring systems for staff to use to monitor Community Benefit Deliverables</p> <p>Support Tay Cities Deal in Community Benefits</p> <p>Identify collaborative opportunities with other public sector organisations</p>
<b>Constraints</b>	<p>Officers with devolved tendering authority would have to plan for inclusion of community benefits.</p> <p>Hanlon system training may be required depending on member of staff's skills</p>
<b>Organisational Requirements</b>	A 23 month Community Benefits Officer role to allow establishment of Community Benefits Framework within Angus Council and create Community Benefits.
<b>Costs</b>	<p>The impact of this role will be measurable against Community Benefits Deliverables such as employment, goods and services to third sector and supplier development/ local spend.</p> <p>It is Intended to employ a Community Benefits Officer on Grade LG9 with a cost to the council of £41483 per annum (subject to any pay awards) plus recruitment costs</p> <p><b>With a current total cost over 23 months of £79509</b></p>
<b>Project Plan</b>	Immediately – From Jan 2022 for 23 months
<b>Stakeholders</b>	<p>Economic Development</p> <p>Tay Cities</p> <p>Procurement</p> <p>Corporate Procurement Group</p> <p>Suppliers</p> <p>Supplier Development Programme</p> <p>Third Sector</p>