

ANGUS COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 25 OCTOBER 2022

ANNUAL PROCUREMENT REPORT

REPORT BY JACKIE BUCHANAN, DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

ABSTRACT

This report presents the Council's statutory annual procurement report under section 15 of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 and recommends that the Annual Report is now published, and the necessary return made to Scottish Ministers.

1. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) Approves the Angus Council Procurement Annual Report 2021/22 which is annexed as Appendix 1 to this report;
- (ii) authorises the Director of Legal and Democratic Services to publish the Annual Report on the Council's website and to provide the necessary return on the Annual Report to Scottish Ministers in line with Section 15 of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014;
- (iii) notes the current position in terms of staff recruitment and future key targets for procurement;

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN

This report contributes to the following priorities contained in the Angus Council Plan: -

- That Angus is 'go to' area for businesses
- That Angus Council is efficient and effective

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Section 15 of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 (the "2014 Act") requires any public organisation, which has an estimated total value of regulated procurement spend of £5million or more (excluding VAT) in a financial year, to prepare and publish a procurement strategy and to publish an annual report on its procurement performance against that strategy. This report presents that Annual Report for 2021-22.
- 3.2 The statutory requirement is for the annual report to be published "as soon as reasonably practicable" after the relevant year end and ideally within five months.
- 3.3 The last Annual Procurement Report was reported to Policy and Resources Committee on 8 March 2022 in respect of the period from 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021 (Report No. 89/22 refers).

4. CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The Angus Council Annual Procurement Report 2021-22 is annexed to this report as Appendix 1.

1. The function of the Council's annual procurement report is to: -

- aid stakeholder (citizen and government) visibility of procurement activities;
- be a mechanism for conveying how the Council is meeting legislative procurement requirements;
- outline how the Council's procurement activity is contributing to the delivery of its broader aims and objectives; and
- address all of the commitments contained in the Council's procurement strategy and support the annual review of the strategy.

4.2 Some key themes emerge from the Annual Report for 2021-22 and will be further developed in the coming months:

- The Council's local spend has risen to over a third which is a great achievement for a local authority of Angus' size and geographical location. This has been achieved through working with Economic Development colleagues and other colleagues across the Council, supporting and driving the ambition to spend locally in a compliant manner.
- As members will be aware, Angus Procurement has been part of a wider Shared Service review with Perth & Kinross Council and Dundee City Council under the project management of Scotland Excel. A huge amount of work was undertaken on this and, whilst the decision was taken not to pursue a shared service at this time, the Corporate Procurement Departments for the three Tayside Authorities continue to work closely and are developing an appropriate model for a more planned and targeted approach to efficiencies realisation.
- There are a number of approved posts within the Procurement Team using existing budget which shall soon be taken to market. Once filled, these members of the team will greatly support both the identification and realisation of savings and efficiencies, but also the drive for added value for the citizens of Angus via the Council's third party spend.
- The Government Key Supplier Support Scheme, introduced as part of the Covid-19 response, is now commencing its wind down. Whilst this will eventually remove the need for additional agency support re the processing of claims, there is still vital work to be undertaken to ensure these much relied upon care providers are able to continue operation once this additional support ceases.
- The Scottish Government procurement audit programme (PCIP) has been on hold as a result of Covid. However, it has been agreed to begin its reintroduction for 2023/24 – Angus is positioning itself for an improved outcome against that of previous assessments.
- The Procurement & Commissioning function, in its newly strengthened position, will continue with its planned programme of Education, Enablement & Efficiencies identification as outlined to this committee previously (Report No. 223/22 refers)..

5. PROPOSALS

It is proposed that Committee agrees the Angus Council Annual Procurement Report 2021-22 annexed as Appendix 1 to this report and agrees that the report will be published on the Council's website and the necessary return on the Annual Report will be notified to the Scottish Ministers in line with the Council's duties under Section 15 of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for the Council arising directly from approval of the recommendations set out in this report.

7. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An Equality Impact Assessment screening review has been undertaken and a full EIA is not required.

NOTE: No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

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List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Angus Council, Annual Procurement Report 2021-22

Appendix 2 – Equality Impact Assessment