

Social Value Summary

Background

The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 places a requirement on the Council to consider how what is being procured may improve the economic, environmental and social well-being of North Yorkshire communities.

We have a responsibility to constantly find more effective ways of making public money deliver better outcomes and to improve outcomes in the most efficient, effective, equitable and sustainable way. Consideration of Social Value in the procurement and commissioning of services can:

- promote employment and economic sustainability;
- raise the living standards residents of North Yorkshire;
- promote participation and engagement;
- build the capacity and sustainability of the voluntary and community sector;
- promote equity and fairness; and
- promote environmental sustainability.

Social Value is a process whereby organisations meet their needs for goods, services, works and utilities in a way that achieves value for money on a whole life basis in terms of generating benefits to society and the economy, whilst minimising damage to the environment.

Social benefit is the outcome of this process of achieving social value. It can mean so many different things to so many different people. Decisions about commissioning a particular service in a particular area focusing on a particular need or requirement in the Council area can all create and deliver an additional social benefit. These additional benefits can take almost any form including the following:

Economic

- Creating employment opportunities for the long-term unemployed or those not in education, employment or training
- Progression towards paying a living wage
- Providing skills and training opportunities (eg apprenticeships or on the job training)
- Creating supply chain opportunities for SMEs and social enterprises;
- Creating opportunities to develop third sector organisations.
- Using local subcontractors

Social

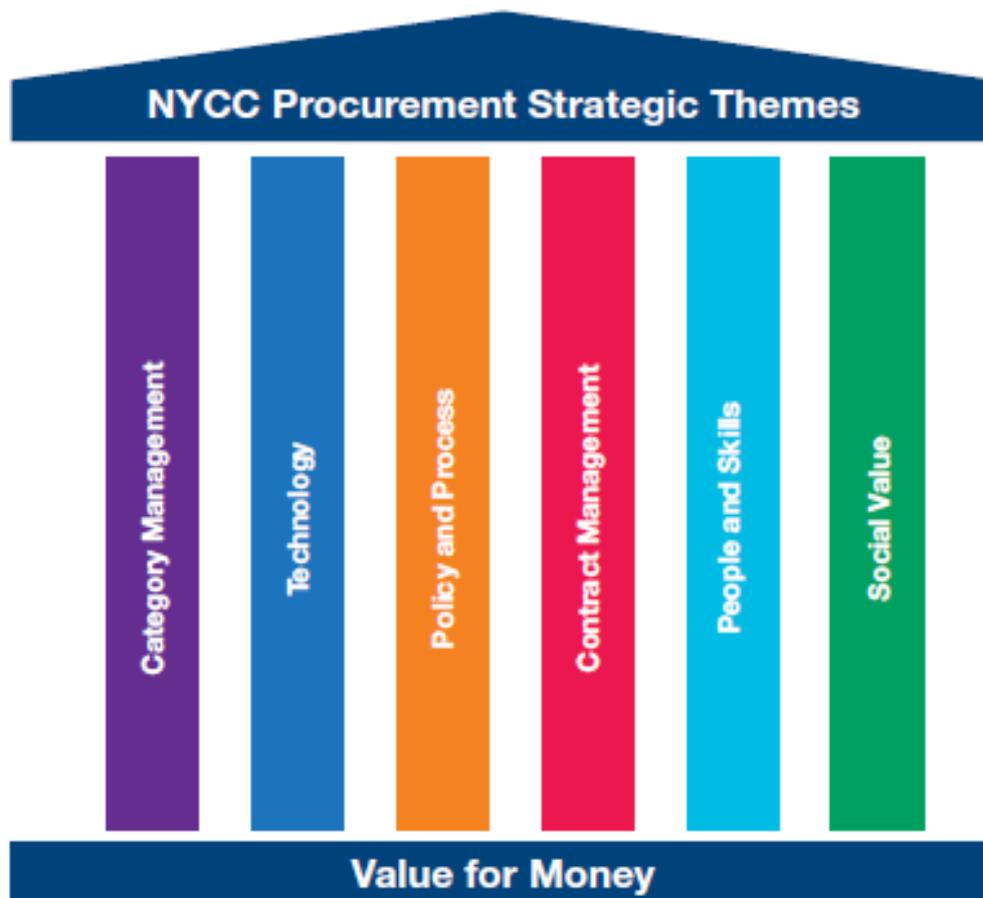
- Supporting crime reduction
- Improving the health and wellbeing of local residents and employees
- Vulnerable people are helped to live independently
- Encouraging community engagement

Environmental

- Efficient use of resources by minimising waste
- Reduced energy and fuel consumption
- Protecting or enhancing the local environment
- Helping with community clear up days
- Reducing deliveries and vehicle movement

Procurement and Contract Management Strategy

Last year we launched a new Procurement and Contract Management Strategy that describes the ambitions of the service through and up to 2022. Delivering value for money is at the heart of what we do. The challenge Councils face of increasing demands and reducing budgets raises the importance of excellent procurement, supplier and contract management performance. Social Value has been identified as one of the six key themes.



The Council currently spends in the region of £350 million externally each year, across both revenue and capital. It has a responsibility to consider ways of taking account of social considerations in public procurement subject to compliance with the Regulations and the fundamental principles of procurement, such as transparency, integrity, economy, openness, fairness, competition and accountability.

Economic considerations are about the contribution to the local economy, retaining, recirculating and leveraging funds in the neighbourhoods of North Yorkshire.

Delivering economic growth and supporting the creation of new jobs is a fundamental objective of the Council.

As a Council we want to grow our local economy and encourage local engagement in procurement activity where possible. It is recognised that the private and voluntary sector are important to our local economy and we need them to see Council contracts in a positive way and want to do business with us.

We will help facilitate this by running "Meet the Buyer" events to encourage companies to engage with and understand how to do business with the Council. This will enable suppliers to ask questions about what the Council is trying to achieve with its procurement approaches which will build relationships with our potential suppliers.

Conducting pre procurement 'Discovery' events on larger value contracts working with suppliers to understand the current thoughts on both project and procurement options will help drive innovation and support commissioning plans.

The Procurement and Contract Management Strategy sets out a plan of key actions for each theme and how we will measure our success. Some of the key Social Value actions are:

- Set out a clear position regarding Social Value with policies and procedures in place to gain maximum value from procurement and contract management through inclusion of environmental and social value criteria for goods and services;
- Implement mechanisms for identifying, monitoring and measuring Social Value, which allow us to be open and transparent about the benefits achieved and the cost of delivery;
- Raise awareness of Social Value and the opportunities available to internal stakeholders;
- Engage with suppliers to raise awareness of economic, environmental and social well-being requirements which need to be factored into future contracts as appropriate;
- The Council increases its spend with local suppliers, SMEs and VCSEs across all categories;
- The Council develops local supply chains in sectors that will deliver the biggest impact on economic growth, including employment and skills opportunities;
- The Council improves the social well-being of individuals and neighbourhoods in North Yorkshire; and
- The Council reduces waste by making sustainable choices when procuring products and services, helping them to cut costs, and meet social economic and environmental objectives.

There are a number of KPIs set out to measure progress including:

- % Compliance with the Public Services (Social Value) Act
- % The percentage of total Council spend with through local suppliers
- % The percentage of total Council spend with SME suppliers
- % of total Council spend with voluntary and community sector