Report to:	**EXECUTIVE**
Relevant Officer:	Steve Thompson, Director of Resources
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader (Place and Tourism)
Date of Meeting:	15 July 2019

COMMISSIONING AND PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the Council's Commissioning and Procurement Strategy for the period 2019-2023.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To approve the Commissioning and Procurement Strategy 2019-23 for the period 1 August 2019 to 31 December 2023.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To provide a common and consistent approach to Council Commissioning and Procurement activities which align with the Council Plan 2019-2024 and take into account local, regional and national priorities and objectives of the procurement sector.

3.2a	Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council?	No
3.2b	Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget?	Yes

3.3 **Other alternative options to be considered:**

None, without a Commissioning and Procurement Strategy it would be impossible to ensure that the Council's commissioning and procurement activities aligned with the Council Plan and the legislation.

4.0 Council priority:

4.1 The relevant Council priority is both:

- "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool"
- "Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience"

5.0 Background information

5.1 The Council's current Commissioning and Procurement Strategy 2015-2019 expired at the end of the previous calendar year.

5.2 The primary purpose of the strategy is to communicate clearly to all employees, partners, suppliers and stakeholders the Council's vision for how the procurement and commissioning of goods, works and services will be carried out and to articulate the procedural framework within which all procurement will take place.

5.3 In order to build on the achievements from the previous strategy an action plan has been developed which is informed by internal and external stakeholder engagement. The national, regional and local contexts has been taken into consideration and the following themes aligned with the National Procurement Strategy form the basis upon which the action plan has been developed;

- Showing Leadership
- Behaving Commercially
- Achieving Community Benefits
- Enabling Actions

5.4 Progress relating to the delivery of the action plan within the strategy will be reported to Corporate Leadership Team and the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Procurement annually.

5.5 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.6 List of Appendices:

Appendix 2a: Commissioning and Procurement Strategy 2019-2023

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 Public Sector procurement is heavily regulated and the importance of compliance with legislative requirements is integral to the delivery of the strategy.

7.0 Human resources considerations:

7.1 An annual procurement work programme approved by all Departmental Management Teams is shared with the Trade Unions. This enables co-operation and contributions from the Trade Unions to understand any potential implications for Council employees, and to play a positive role in facilitating change and ensuring procurement decisions improve service delivery.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 The strategy and the procurement regulations require equality of treatment for all prospective suppliers and service providers.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 The delivery of value for money through commissioning and procurement activity is a key element of the Behaving Commercially theme in the strategy. The requirement to deliver social value and maximise best value from every pound spent by the Council is detailed in the Achieving Community Benefits theme and places Social Value at the heart of the Council's commissioning and procurement practices.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 The risk of having no high-level strategy in place will lead to a lack of consistent practice across the Council, and significant increased risk of challenge from the marketplace from unsuccessful bidders.

10.2 A lack of professional and commercial acumen from commissioners and procurement officers will result in lost opportunity to deliver social value, collaborate with partners to maximise Council spending power and secure best value from the marketplace.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 Ethical procurement is built into the Council's commissioning and procurement practices. Over the course of the strategy it is expected that issues such as modern slavery, reducing supplier reliance on single-use plastics, tax avoidance and evasion, zero hours contracts will intensify. The Council's Suppliers Charter and standard procurement control documents will continuously be reviewed to ensure the highest levels of probity and ethical considerations are taken account of.

12.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

12.1 A number of consultation exercises informed the development of the Strategy including;

- Self-assessment/Benchmarking exercise against the National Strategy themes
- Internal Staff workshop
- Internal Client Questionnaire
- Supplier Questionnaire

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1	Is this a key decision?	Yes
14.2	If so, Forward Plan reference number:	9/2019
14.3	If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days?	No
14.4	If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:	

15.0 Call-in information:

15.1	Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process?	No
15.2	If **yes**, please give reason:	

16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed: 5 July 2019 Date approved:

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

19.0 Date of Decision:

19.1

20.0 Reason(s) for decision:

20.1

21.0 Date Decision published:

21.1

22.0 Executive Members in attendance:

22.1

23.0 Call-in:

23.1

24.0 Notes:

24.1