

TITLE OF REPORT: Corporate Commissioning and Procurement Strategy
2021/22 – 2026/27

REPORT OF: Mike Barker, Strategic Director, Corporate Services and
Governance

SUMMARY

This report provides Members with an opportunity to input into the draft Corporate Commissioning and Procurement Strategy 2021/22-2026/27

Background

1.0 The Council agreed to implement a 5 year Corporate Commissioning and Procurement Strategy at its meeting on 2nd February 2017. Since then, the Thrive agenda together with a range of other strategies have been developed, and as the current Corporate Commissioning and Procurement Strategy expires, it is time to refresh it and ensure that the Council's spend continues to be aligned to Council priorities.

Proposal

2.0 The revised strategy (attached as Appendix 1) is built on 4 key themes which reflect Thrive, and also align with the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the Economic Development Strategy and the Climate Emergency Strategy. Reducing external expenditure and maximising the value of the Gateshead £ through Community Wealth Building are also key themes running through the strategy. The themes include:

- **Tackling inequality, supporting local communities, and putting people at the heart of everything we do**
- **Investing in our local economy**
- **Working together for a better and greener future**
- **Delivering value for money and ensuring a sustainable council**

2.1 A presentation outlining the key areas of the draft Strategy will be given to the Corporate Resources OSC at the meeting.

Consultation

3.0 Subject to agreement by the Corporate Resources OSC, and prior to a final version being considered by Cabinet, the draft Strategy will be subject to consultation with a wide range of stakeholders including Connected Voice, Federation of Small Businesses, CLES, Construction Alliance North East, etc

- 3.1 Following Cabinet approval of the final version, a comprehensive training programme will be developed to engage both officers within the Council who commission or procure goods, works or services; and suppliers who are likely to tender to the Council.

Recommendations

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee receive the presentation and:
 - 4.1.1 Provide any feedback on the Draft Strategy to the Service Director, Corporate Commissioning and Procurement prior to this approach being considered by Cabinet;
 - 4.1.2 Agree that consultation with a wide range of stakeholders should be undertaken.