

**Birmingham City Council**  
**Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee**  
**24 March 2022**



**Subject:** Birmingham Business Charter for Social Responsibility  
**Report of:** Rebecca Hellard, Director of Council Management  
**Report author:** Jim Parkinson, Acting Category Head of Policy & Governance – Corporate Procurement Service (CPS)

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential : N/A

## **1 Purpose and Attached Documents**

- 1.1 The purpose of this document is to provide a formal response to Councillor Mahmood observations in relation to the number of live accredited organisations detailed on the Birmingham Business Charter for Social Responsibility website.
- 1.2 In particular, Councillor Mahmood asked the Chair of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee to instruct the relevant officer to bring a details report to the next Committee meeting so that it can be discussed.
- 1.3 This report provides a formal response to the questions raised by Councillor Mahmood as detailed in Appendix “A” of this report.

## **2 Formal Response from Corporate Procurement Service (CPS)**

- 2.1 The number of “live” Birmingham Business Charter for Social Responsibility signatories in any given year is entirely dependent on the number of procurements (and their value) that are being progresses and it is for this reason that it would be inappropriate to set a KPI on the number of signatories.
- 2.2 It is only fairly recently that the website was modified to indicate whether those signatories were “live” or not, indeed when Cllr Mahmood was Cabinet Member this distinction wasn’t made, leading anyone who visited the page to think that all those listed were current when in fact they were not. It was just a list of those contractors/organisations/businesses that had signed up to the Birmingham Business Charter for Social Responsibility.

- 2.3 Those organisations marked as Live have a current action plan against which they are delivering and, where contracted, the delivery is being monitored by the contract manager. Those organisations that are marked as Expired no longer have an active action plan against which they are delivering. This distinction prompted some Expired organisations to renew their action plans and become Live.
- 2.4 As of 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022 the webpage shows there is currently 523 named organisations, of which 114 are accredited and listed as live. There are 409 that are listed as expired.

### 3 Appendices

- 3.1 Appendix "A" below refers to an extract from the report which recorded the original questions raised by Councillor Mahmood.

Birmingham's Business Charter for Social Responsibility	<p>Steve Sandercock Assistant Director – Procurement (Interim)</p> <p>Rokneddin Shariat / Sharon O'Reilly/Jim Parkinson</p>	<p><i>This item has been requested following Cllr Mahmood's recent question at Full Council (set out below)</i></p> <p><i>"I note from the BCC website that the current signatures for the Business Charter for Social Responsibility stands at 518.</i></p> <p><i>However, 409 of them have their status listed as expired, and only 109 are listed as live.</i></p> <p><i>Perhaps the signatories no longer contract with us or the website has not been updated.</i></p> <p><i>As such will the Chair of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee instruct the relevant officers to bring a detailed report to the next Committee meeting so that we can discuss."</i></p>
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