



Work Outline

Task and Finish: Commercial Governance

Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Our key question:	How effective are the Council's commercial governance arrangements in ensuring proportional and effective compliance, enabling delivery of value for money plus maximising other outcomes eg Social Value?
1. How is O&S adding value through this work?	<p>In the past the Resources O&S Committee has identified several issues with procurement and contract management arrangements, particularly in relation to the timeliness of decisions and adherence to regulations and governance requirements.</p> <p>O&S Committee are to set up a Task and Finish group to review and examine the commercial governance process to ensure that it is robust, fit for purpose, complied with and delivers both value for money for taxpayers and the Council's communities.</p>
2. What needs to be done?	<p>Proposed Task and Finish group would look to:</p> <p><u>Background / Existing Arrangements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess existing background around the Council's spend and how performance is monitored• Scrutinise the effectiveness of the current Procurement Rules• Scrutinise the effectiveness of Contract Management arrangements <p><u>Research and findings</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research and findings from elsewhere (including benchmarking with others and assessing pending changes to the national Procurement Policy)• Seeking insight from elsewhere and Peers / best practice around commercial arrangements <p><u>Consultation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seeking insight and views from key external stakeholders (including suppliers, Federation of Small Business, Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise Sector) on how they perceive the current Procurement Rules works



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeking insight from key internal stakeholders / commissioners who are required to apply the Procurement Rules as part of their work <p><u>Options and recommendations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify what works well in the current arrangements and any gaps in provision Establish details on impacts and how it will be monitored Consideration of the implications of the Council's Equality report and action plan to ensure key points are covered, in particular increasing diversity in disadvantaged groups and VCSE community <p>Set out clear consideration of the options and recommendations with the necessary level of scrutiny.</p>
3. What timescale do we propose to do this in?	The inquiry will take place from September 2021 to February 2022, provisionally with a report in March 2022.
4. What outcomes are we looking to achieve?	A set of recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources to strengthen procurement and contract management in the Council.
5. What is the best way to achieve these outcomes and what routes will we use?	Informal sessions of the Task and Finish, to be determined by the group when convened.

Member / Officer Leads

Lead Member (O&S Chair)	Cllr Mohammed Aikhlaq
Membership:	Cllrs Mohammed Aikhlaq, Barbara Dring, Meirion Jenkins, Majid Mahmood and Paul Tilsley
Lead Officer:	Christian Scade, Interim Head of Scrutiny and Committee Services