

# WIRRAL COUNCIL

## CABINET MEETING

6 NOVEMBER 2014

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>WIRRAL COMMISSIONING STRATEGY 2014-16</b>
<b>WARD/S AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>FIONA JOHNSTONE (DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH)</b>
<b>RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:</b>	<b>CLLR MCLACHLAN</b>
<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	<b>NO</b>

### 1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The aim of this report is to seek approval from Cabinet for the draft Commissioning Strategy (2014-16).
- 1.2 The strategy proposes an approach to Strategic Commissioning for Wirral Council, which is based on the intention to move to more outcomes-based commissioning.
- 1.3 The commissioning strategy focuses on the following areas:
  - Aim of the strategy
  - Defining commissioning, procurement and contract management
  - Why commissioning is important
  - Commissioning principles for Wirral
  - Becoming an expert commissioner
  - Governance
  - Embedding the strategy

### 2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

#### Defining Commissioning

- 2.1 Commissioning is the process for deciding how to use resources in the most efficient, effective, equitable and sustainable way possible, whilst also improving outcomes (Cabinet Office, Commissioning Academy Programme 2013). Commissioning broadly functions at three levels:
  - Strategic Commissioning
  - Operational Commissioning
  - Individual Commissioning

2.2 Commissioning should focus on the delivery of outcomes and not purely on the provision of services, regardless of level. This means:

- Understanding needs and desired outcomes
- Optimising resources
- Targeting resources at citizens in need
- Choosing the right mechanism to best achieve the desired outcome

### **Strategy Aim**

2.3 The draft strategy sets out the Council's commissioning vision and objectives, and the approach for achieving them. Through this approach the commissioning activities of the Council will be aligned directly to the overarching vision for the borough as set out in the Corporate Plan.

2.4 The aims of the strategy are to:

- To set out the vision and direction for commissioning activity across the Council
- Provide clarity around what we mean by commissioning, procurement and contract management
- Define the basic principles which support all commissioning decisions
- Identify the key outcomes required to make the Council an expert commissioner and client
- Set out how the Council proposes to achieve intended outcomes
- Enable greater personal choice and responsibility
- Deliver the Council's public sector responsibility and equality duties.

The strategy will then enable the council to:

- Reduce duplication
- Reduce costs to the organisation
- Ensure the impact of commissioning activity is the best it can be
- Decommission where appropriate
- Co-commission with a range of key stakeholders and deliver (through a mixture of models) the Council's overall vision outlined in the Corporate Plan 2014-16.

## **3.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

3.1 The delivery of improved outcomes and high quality services through strategic commissioning requires the development and implementation of an effective commissioning infrastructure (e.g. effective, transparent and consistent Contract Procedure Rules [CPRs]) and the availability of relevant skills and knowledge (e.g. procurement skills). Both of these issues are addressed by the structures proposed by the Future Council process.

## **4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

4.1 N/A

## **5.0 CONSULTATION**

5.1 N/A

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS**

6.1 The commissioning strategy presents voluntary, community and faith groups with an important opportunity to:

- Contribute to the development of the strategic vision through co-commissioning techniques and initiatives
- Assist in the delivery of key strategic objectives through the provision of citizen and outcome focused services
- Drive and promote innovative approaches to service delivery.

## **7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS**

7.1 The strategy will require the coordination of all functions (e.g. business intelligence; contracting; procurement; finance; legal) across the Council involved in the delivery of the commissioning strategy to be focused on the delivery of all stages identified in the commissioning life-cycle (see diagram highlighted in page 6 of the strategy).

## **8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 The development, adoption and management of Contract Procedure Rules consistently across all areas of the Council.

## **9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 The strategy recognises that consideration of the Councils responsibilities and duties with regard to inequalities is an essential pre-requisite to all commissioning-related decision-making.

## **10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 There are no carbon reduction implications based on the content of this report.

## **11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There are no planning or community safety implications based on the content of this report.

## **12.0 RECOMMENDATION/S**

12.1 Cabinet are requested to note, comment and agree the contents of this report.

**REPORT AUTHOR: Fiona Johnstone**

Director of Public Health, Policy & Performance

Telephone: 01516918152

Email: [fionajohnstone@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:fionajohnstone@wirral.gov.uk)

**Tony Kinsella**

Head of Performance & Commissioning

Telephone: 07717156941

Email: [tonykinsella@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:tonykinsella@wirral.gov.uk)

## **APPENDICES**

Draft Wirral Commissioning Strategy 2014-16

## **REFERENCE MATERIAL**

N/A

## **SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>