



**Resources & Public Realm
Scrutiny Committee**
25 February 2025

**Report from the Corporate Director
of Community, Health and Well-
Being**

**Cabinet Member for Climate Action
and Community Power**

**Commissioning, Procurement, Community Wealth-Building,
and Social Value**

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	Non-Key
Open or Part/Fully Exempt: <small>(If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)</small>	Open
List of Appendices:	Appendix 1: Procurement Review Scope
Background Papers:	None
Contact Officer(s): <small>(Name, Title, Contact Details)</small>	Rhodri Rowlands, Director Strategic Commissioning and Capacity Building rhodri.rowlands@brent.gov.uk

1.0 Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report provides an update on current procurement, strategic commissioning and community wealth building and social value activity, as well as outlining planned next steps and opportunities in these areas.
- 1.2 The council is embarking on a strategic change programme that will result in us planning, designing and commissioning services differently – aiming to ensure we achieve good value for money for the council and high quality services for residents. In support of this programme, there are several review activities underway, which are of direct relevance to areas of focus in this report. The recommendations and additional opportunities arising from the reviews will further inform future activity and next steps.

2.0 Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 2.1 Consider and comment on the report and provide additional suggestions that can be considered as future activity is developed

2.2 Receive a report within 6 months on progress in implementing recommendations that arise from the current Procurement Review (see 4.16 and 4.29)

3.0 Contribution to Borough Plan Priorities & Strategic Context

3.1 The areas in this report align with the Council’s commitment to create long lasting positive change to local areas, for the benefit of local communities and align with the [Borough Plan 2023 - 2027](#) priorities of ‘Thriving Communities’, ‘A Healthier Brent’ and ‘Prosperity and Stability in Brent’.

3.2 The areas in this report also align with the Council’s strategic change programme. Specifically, strategic commissioning, community wealth and social value are all part of the Capacity and Capability Building workstream.

Workstream	Desired Outcome
Capacity & Capability Building	Community wealth and capacity in place across the borough to collectively and effectively support residents in their communities where possible; including a prevention-first and outcome-focused approach to designing & commissioning services, adopted across the Council and by relevant partners, building the capacity of our local VCS and ensuring good value for money for the council and high quality services for residents.
Radical Place Leadership	Thriving communities where residents feel connected to their place and able to make decisions over their lives, supported through a range of prevention-focused, integrated Council, VCS and partner services that respond to local need as far as possible

4.0 Strategic Commissioning and Procurement

4.1 Definitions and approach

4.2 At the heart of what we do is the commissioning of services. What we mean by that isn’t simply the way we buy or even design services, but also includes the way we understand need in our community, and the way we bring together the full range of options available to us to meet that need. We know this works as a way of achieving the outcomes we and our residents value, but we also know we can’t do all of this ourselves, and that is why our role is changing and why we need to change with it.

4.3 **Commissioning** is the process of joining up resources (including finances, assets, providers, workforce, residents and the community) and finding the most effective and efficient way of using these resources to deliver improved outcomes. Commissioning promotes joint working, helps build stronger partnerships, and supports the involvement of residents, communities and the community and voluntary sector in identifying and designing new models for delivering services.

- 4.4 **Procurement** is one part of the commissioning process. It is the part that is concerned with acquiring goods, works and services in the right quality and quantity, at the right time and at the best price.
- 4.5 Commissioning and procurement are therefore connected yet distinct features throughout the commissioning cycle (see figure 1). Distinguishing between these functions is important in setting the roles and responsibilities of council officers, and in understanding the unique functions of each.

Figure 1: Commissioning and Procurement Cycle



4.6 **What we are doing now**

4.7 Developing A New Strategic Commissioning Framework

- 4.8 Our commissioning and procurement budgets and levers are amongst the most important activities undertaken by any local authority. It can have a very significant impact on people’s lives. When it works well it contributes to significantly improving people’s lives and realising good value for money. When it does not it undermines them because services do not reflect their needs. We spend a significant amount of public money through the services and activities we commission but at present, this is mainly driven through Directorate structures with no clear view of the total picture or how effective it is in achieving our stated outcomes.
- 4.9 The council’s Change Programme sets a clear direction of travel and ambition to move towards a new model for procurement and commissioning that is outcomes focused and efficiency motivated, which is data and intelligence led

and which sits at the heart of a community of practice, working to strengthen and support expertise and knowledge sharing.

- 4.10 This Commissioning Framework will set out key principles and the approach to commissioning at a strategic level in Brent. It will be used going forward to support the development of consistent, high quality commissioning practice and associated improvements in outcomes for our residents and communities.

4.11 Commissioning Community of Practice

- 4.12 To support the development of our commissioning framework we have established a Commissioning Community of Practice. This brings officers together from across the council with a focus on ensuring we support consistent and high quality commissioning and procurement activity, sharing learning, designing new approaches, and working together on shared priorities.
- 4.13 We also need to ensure we have the right people with the right skills and competencies that underpin effective and efficient commissioning. Work is therefore also underway to develop a capacity-building and skills development programme for commissioning staff.

4.14 Procurement Review

- 4.15 Working with the Local Government Association (LGA), we have commissioned an independent procurement review. The review will draw out both areas of strength and good practice and areas for improvement and development. The approach provides independent, critical friend challenge and support to ensure that we adopt procurement principles, policies and practices that will help to ensure that every pound spent by Brent enables better outcomes for communities, residents and local businesses.
- 4.16 The review will produce a report setting out key findings, evidence, improvement recommendations and a supporting action plan. A first version of the report is expected by 15th March.
- 4.17 The review is focused on the following themes. Further information is set out in appendix 1:
- Procurement Processes:
 - Governance and Approvals processes:
 - Contract Management:
 - Engagement and Communications
 - Use of data, information and knowledge sources:
 - Procurement Strategy and Policies:
 - Team, culture and staff development:
 - Collaboration with others:
- 4.18 The review started in January and good progress is being made. Activity by the review lead includes a series of meetings with key officers, members and

attendance at various relevant boards e.g. Commissioning and Procurement Board. A review of key documentation including relevant policies and strategies, reports and audits and supporting materials such as contract management framework is ongoing. Additional advisory support is also being provided which includes drawing on best practice and advice from across the sector.

4.19 The recommendations and improvement actions identified through this review will shape the service’s priorities for the year ahead and will also be used to inform updates of our Procurement Strategy and Social Value Policy.

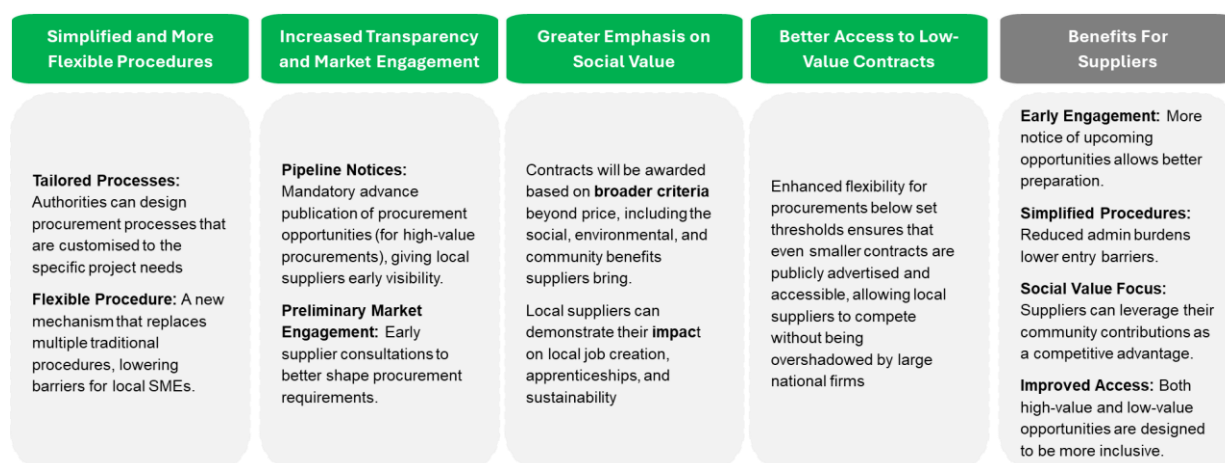
4.20 Procurement Act

4.21 The Procurement Act 2023 (PA23) represents a transformative change in how public procurement is conducted across the UK. It introduces more flexible processes, enhanced transparency, and improved opportunities for local suppliers to engage in public contracts.

4.22 The Act comes into law on 24 February 2025. However, this will not correspond to a ‘big bang’ change. Rather, it is a measured transition as requirements of the Act continue to evolve, are embedded into local government practice and aspects of the Act not yet in effect, are addressed later this year.

Benefits and Opportunities

4.23 The Act provides supportive mechanisms that will help facilitate transformative shifts in our procurement approach that will realise greater overall benefits for Brent. Planned work to refresh our Procurement Strategy will reflect these ensuring that our future commissioning and procurement approach can make the most of these. Key opportunities are summarised in figure 2:



Implementation and Training

4.24 A Procurement Strategy Implementation Group has led our preparations in readiness for the Act. Key activities have included:

- Updating Contract Standing Orders (CSOs) and Precedent Documents: CSOs have been updated taking into account the requirements of the Procurement Act but also recognising procurement processes under previous Public Contract Rules (PCR's) will also continue. These will be presented to the Constitutional Working Group prior to seeking Full Council approval on 27 February.
- Training development and delivery (November 2024 and ongoing)
- Changes to our e-tendering procurement portal to comply with Act

4.25 An extensive training programme is in place and activity includes:

- Commissioning Community of Practice: detailed briefing session for officers on the Act in November 2024
- Weekly 'bitesize' training sessions for officers running weekly since January. These cover each key aspect and changes of the Act. These have been well attended, with over 60 participants at each session
- Supplier engagement is planned for early March and officers are also facilitating a session at the CWB Business Forum on 20th March to raise awareness with suppliers
- Additional sessions will be created, and training provided later in 2025 as Central Government look to make further additions and amendments to the Act during the coming year.

4.26 Looking ahead – future plans and priorities

4.27 Procurement Review Improvement Plan

4.28 The review will produce a report setting out key findings, evidence, improvement recommendations and a supporting action plan. A first version of the report is expected by 15 March with an initial improvement plan developed by end of March. This report recommends that Resources and Public Realm Committee receives a progress report on its delivery within six months.

4.29 Refreshing the Procurement Strategy

4.30 Procurement is an enabling strand for our strategic change programme and supports delivery of all council services and objectives. Informed by the Procurement Review, in early 2025/26, we will be refreshing the Procurement Strategy (May 2025).

4.31 Procurement Act

4.32 The Procurement Strategy Implementation Group will continue to meet and oversee progress in implementing the Procurement Act (February 2025 and ongoing).

4.33 Measuring and Reporting on Impact

4.34 It is important that we measure, understand and report on the impact of procurement and commissioning activity. This is necessary to ensure we know what works, what difference is being made for residents, the extent to which we are realising value for money and how effective and efficient Brent's procurement is.

4.35 As we develop our new Procurement Strategy and implement the actions arising from the Procurement Review, we will refresh the mechanisms we use to measure and report on performance. In particular, we want to better understand the impact of activity on key themes. For example, how we measure and report on the use of local suppliers and businesses, and how we might measure the impact on the local economy of progressive procurement and the work on CWB.

4.36 We also plan to reestablish a form of Annual Report covering the impact of procurement and relevant CWB and social value activity.

5.0 Community Wealth Building and Social Value

5.1 Definitions and approach

5.2 **Community wealth building** is one of the pillars of the current Procurement Strategy and is currently defined '***as an approach that uses the spending power of local institutions to support small businesses, social enterprises, and community-owned organisations***'.

5.3 The Borough Plan commits to "supporting community wealth building by encouraging retention of investment in the Brent economy and connecting local businesses to help them access supply chain opportunities".

5.4 The Centre for Local Economic Studies (CLES) - the national organisation for local economies - and several other Local Authorities have adopted a much broader view that recognises the additional opportunities to enhance impact across other areas that offer wider benefit both to local residents and to the council.

5.5 CLES defines [community wealth building](#) as an '***approach to economic development that changes the way that our economies function, retaining more wealth and opportunity for the benefit of local people***'

5.6 It identifies 5 pillars as being key to this:

- Making financial power work for local places

- Plural ownership of the local economy
 - Fair employment and labour market
 - Progressive procurement
 - Socially productive use of land and property
- 5.7 The council's **Social Value** policy outlines the council's approach to Social Value and how this is currently implemented, managed and maintained:
- 5.8 It applies the following definition: ***Social value is defined through the Public Services (Social Value) Act (2013) which requires all public sector organisations and their suppliers to look beyond the financial cost of a contract to consider how the services they commission and procure can improve the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of an area.***"
- 5.9 The greatest social value impact is usually achieved through working together and sharing our resources. This might mean, for example, sharing building space with community groups, purchasing equipment made using recycled materials, providing free business advice to local businesses and charities, enabling young adults with additional needs to find long-term employment, seeking to support legacy impact of regeneration through skills and knowledge transfer.
- 5.10 To provide a consistent format through which suppliers can identify and choose potential outcomes and performance measures to deliver as part of their social value commitments the Council currently uses a social value performance framework. This provides the formal mechanism through which suppliers are asked to use to develop their social value commitments. Suppliers are also asked to complete method statements to demonstrate how they will deliver and monitor the value brought to Brent.
- 5.11 The social value policy currently applies a standard 10% weighting to social value for all contracts over £100k.

What we are doing now

- 5.12 This section summarises some of the key activity being undertaken.
- 5.13 Support for Local Businesses
- 5.14 We have commissioned Branduin to deliver their successful Fit to Bid programme to upskill local businesses in writing better tender applications for local contracts. This is an attempt to level the playing field for our local businesses and break down the key barriers they face to winning council contracts and try to keep more local spend in Brent. So far 88 Brent businesses have signed up for the programme. The following workshops held to date with positive feedback received from participating businesses.
- Introduction To Bid Writing - Foundation 16-Jan-25
 - Improve Your Bid Response – Advanced 23-Jan-25
 - Writing Public Sector Bids & Tenders 30-Jan-25

5.15 Business Forum

- 5.16 This year's Business Forum is themed around CWB and takes place on 20 March. Branduin, alongside West London Business, working with the Council are coordinating the summit.
- 5.17 The summit will close with a Meet the Buyer event, that follows the Meet the Buyer event held in September 2024. Local businesses (many of whom will have been through the Fit to Bid programme) will have the opportunity to speak with the council, and local anchor institutions, to find out more about upcoming tender opportunities they could bid for and what they need to do as suppliers in respect of the Procurement Act.

5.18 Market Rent Reduction – use of property assets

- 5.19 In September 2024 Cabinet approved the new Property Strategy 2024 – 2027, which was developed to align with Brent Borough Plan 2023 – 2027 priorities and sets out a focus on using property assets to benefit Brent's communities, support the economy and improved prosperity, going beyond just managing buildings: it is about creating vibrant, secure and inclusive environments where our communities can grow, thrive and connect.
- 5.20 Building on the principles laid out in the Property Strategy and following a review of approaches adopted by other London local authorities, a proposed 'Market Rent Reduction' framework has been developed.
- 5.21 The framework outlines an approach for reduced market rent for new lettings only, through which Brent Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations wishing to rent Brent Council premises may be eligible for reduced rent rates reflecting the broader social value and impact their use of the premises will bring to the local community.
- 5.22 One of the aims of the framework is to aid capacity building of local VCS organisations that may not currently be able to afford full market rent. Organisation's applying for a market rent reduction will be required to complete a Community Value Statement response. The questions in the statement have been developed in line with the Principles of the Property Strategy and are designed to ascertain the community value of the proposed use of the premises.

5.23 VCS and Social Infrastructure Review

- 5.24 The VCS sector is vital to residents and communities across Brent. A strong and enabled sector promotes active, thriving and resilient communities, leading to better outcomes for individuals and reduced pressure on statutory services.
- 5.25 The contract for Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Support, currently provided by CVS Brent, is under review as we identify future VCS infrastructure support requirements that need to be met in order to better enable the VCS sector to

thrive. This will also consider future arrangements for community grant initiatives.

Looking ahead – future plans and priorities

5.26 Developing our CWB and Social Value approach

5.27 CWB and social value presents an opportunity for all people and organisations in Brent to achieve more together towards our shared Borough Plan ambitions. One of our key next steps is to refresh our CWB approach and Social Value Policy. In doing so, we want to reset in simple terms, what it means for people and places in Brent.

5.28 We will explore how the Council can go further to increase the positive impact of CWB and Social Value for Brent, establishing a clear mission that is shared across the Council, with key partners and supported by an action plan.

5.29 A key aim of our new CWB and Social Value Policy will be to set out how Brent will deliver maximum social, economic and environmental value, not only through its commissioning, procurement and contract management activities but also through enabling wider collaboration and resource sharing between people and organisations across the county.

5.30 Several initiatives and options are already under consideration. We are in the process of engaging CLES to help develop this thinking further, in line with the broader principles of CWB summarised above.

- **Establish anchor networks** – bring together organisations within the Brent Business Network and beyond who want to work together to maximise the impact of their employment, supply chains, physical assets and spend for Brent
- **Analysis of wealth flows in Brent** – commission or undertake analysis to better understand and build knowledge about supply chain spend across partners and collective power – to give a clearer view of the total impact of local spend in Brent
- **Social impact investing** – progress ambition to attract and maximise impact social investing and funding to the borough to support local VCSE infrastructure and contribute to community grant programmes
- **Plural economy** – explore opportunities for developing and growing small enterprises, community organisations, co-operatives and municipal ownership – each of which can play their part in locking wealth in Brent

5.31 As outlined previously, two of the main objectives for all procurement, commissioning, CWB and social value activity is to ensure good value for money and high quality services for residents. This is often achieved through a mixed model of provision that includes services delivered in-house as well as by commissioned providers and suppliers e.g. in the private and VCS sector.

5.32 For future procurement and commissioning activity, we will consider the merits and feasibility of an insourcing first approach that prioritises in house delivery where possible and where this maximises value for money and positive impact for residents.

5.33 This work will then lead into the work programme for the Strategic Change Programme around Capacity and Capability Building, of which CWB and Social Value is part. A steering group is already set up, with reporting to Corporate Management Team, that brings officers together who will oversee activity to build our CWB and Social Value priorities into the planning, design and delivery of all services, promoting collective ownership, rather than it being viewed as 'what procurement do'.

5.34 Developing our Social Value approach

5.35 It's necessary to work alongside partners to deliver on this agenda at scale. Feedback from stakeholders has identified a need for us to do more to develop a shared approach to social value in Brent that draws deeply on collaboration with partners across VCS, suppliers and other anchor organisations.

5.36 Social Value UK cite co-design as a key element of social value. Lots of larger developers, are keen to bring residents voices into goal and agenda setting through consultation, engagement and independent research. There are also examples of Social Value Advisory Panels that include residents and form part of the commissioning and procurement infrastructure around social value that we are keen to explore further.

5.37 We are planning a Social Value Summit as the means of kick-starting this work - building on the Meet the Funders event (September 2024) and the forthcoming Business Forum (March 2025), and ideally hosted via CVS Brent and supported by a network of partners.

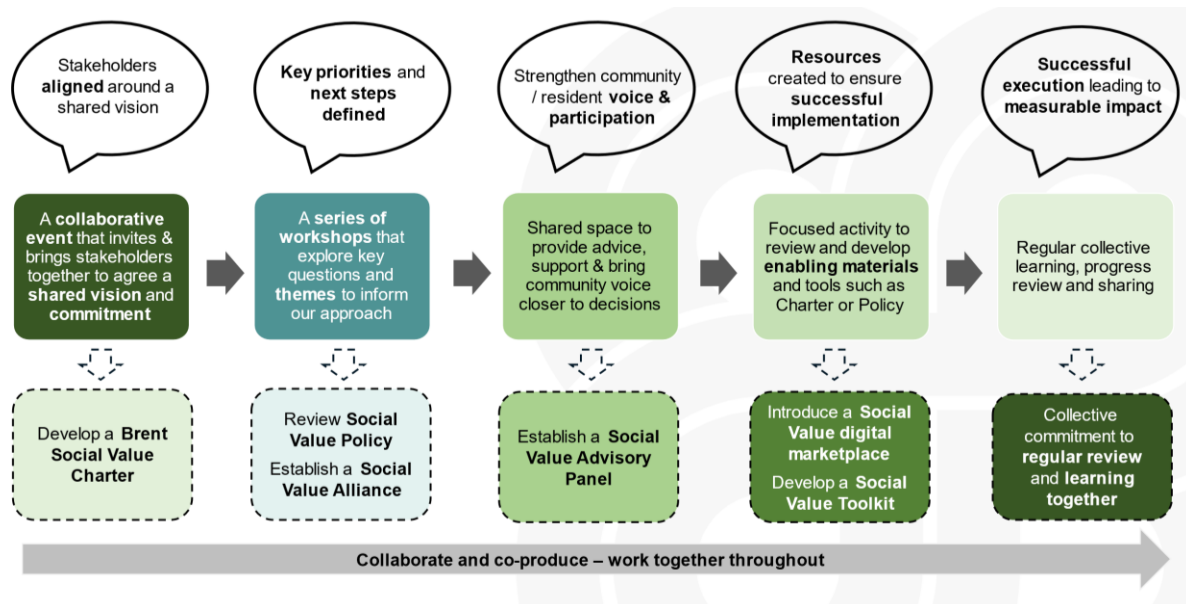
5.38 The benefits of this approach will include:

- Demonstrate commitment to a shared approach to making social value work better for Brent driven through partnership
- Strengthen relationships and foster collective action across key sectors
- Directly respond to common challenges that social value commitments and additional supplier resources are not directed at genuine community needs and projects and that these needs are not sufficiently visible and promoted to enable suppliers to connect to them
- Establishing a platform through which we can work with residents and partners to refresh our social value approach
- Work is underway to develop this approach and includes engagement with CVS Brent. We will also be using the Business Forum on 20th March to

promote this approach and generate interest. The roadmap below summarises the activities.

5.39 Other initiatives proposed to strengthen our social value approach include:

- **Social Value Charter** – a set of guiding principles that organisations sign up to mark their commitment to improving economic, social and environmental well-being
- **Social Value Advisory Panel** – enabling stronger resident and community voice in identifying social value commitments
- **Match-making** – better joining up of community projects and need with supplier resources and skills via digital platforms
- **Social Progress Index (SPI)** – using data from the SPI to help measure and track key indicators about what contributes towards residents' quality of life at a ward level
- **Social Value Online Presence** – create a clear and compelling brand and narrative for social value in Brent with a supporting web presence that facilitates, encourages and enables people, organisations and businesses to get involved in social value, share resources and impact



5.40 Matching community projects and needs to business support

5.41 There are significant benefits to be realised by better enabling supplier and business expertise and resources to be matched to community needs and projects. There are numerous examples of councils that have established digital market places and match-making platforms to do this.

5.42 There are several platforms that support this in the market. They work by providing a meeting place (website), enabling suppliers to register their 'offer', community groups/organisations to register their 'need' and match them to get

things done. We are currently engaging with providers to explore what might be feasible and what benefits could be realised for Brent.

5.43 There are some key benefits to this:

- For community – supports projects and needs to be met for free with expertise and resources from businesses working in Brent
- For businesses – they are able to give back and increase their social impact by using their expertise, resources on community projects where it really counts
- For council – increased social value and impact

5.44 Social Value Policy

5.45 The Social Value Policy is due to be refreshed and this is planned for early 2025/26. As well as updating our definition of social value, this will update our social value priority themes and priorities. It also gives an opportunity to explore potential new policy considerations including:

- **Social Value Threshold** – potentially increasing the social value weighting applied to contracts by adopting an approach that allows flexibility to flex the % dependent on the below points, achieving greater benefit as a result:
 - The spend category of the contract (i.e. what we are buying, or with a supply market that is more capable and mature in delivering social value)
 - A tiered approach, so the greater the contract value, the broader and deeper suppliers are expected to contribute.
- **Definition of 'local'** – currently we apply a definition of local that means a Brent based postcode. There are options to expand this definition, which recognise the contribution of sub-regional suppliers in the local economy in respect of jobs for example.

5.46 In addition, the Policy and supporting action plan will be based around understanding what is most important to communities in Brent. This will inform on-going work with commissioners, procurement, service teams and communities to ensure our social value priority themes and desired outcomes remain relevant.

5.47 Measuring and Reporting on Impact

5.48 As with procurement and commissioning activity, it is important that we measure, understand and report on the impact of CWB and social value activity.

5.49 As the above activity is developed, we will consider in parallel, the ways in which we can best measure and report on the difference and impact we can achieve through CWB and social value.

6.0 Outline timetable and plan

6.1 The table below summarises key activity and timescales:

Activity	Detail	Date
Procurement Review	Independent assessment to identify areas of strength and areas for improvement. Improvement Plan developed to respond to recommendations	Jan-April 2025
Procurement Act	Preparations and implementation of Act in February 2025	Feb 2025
Procurement Strategy	Refreshed Procurement Strategy that sets our vision and ambition for Procurement from 2025-2030 and how our procurement activity will contribute to achieving Borough priorities, ensuring good value for money and high quality services for residents	May 2025
Service Development	Implement recommendations from Procurement Review Improvement Plan	April 2025 ongoing
CWB priorities setting and action plan	Refreshed vision, priorities and action plan for CWB	From March 2025
CWB Business Forum	Business Forum themed around CWB, including supplier engagement, social value, procurement act and networking	20 March 2025
Social Value Summit	Bringing together stakeholders to launch development of future social value approach	tbc
Social Value Policy 2025-2030	Refresh Social Value Policy to maximise our positive impact including through <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Achieving more than we can with our own resources. ▪ Achieving better, more long-lasting outcomes through working together. 	June 2025
Social Value Charter	A set of guiding principles that organisations sign up to mark their commitment to improving economic, social and environmental well-being	June 2025

Activity	Detail	Date
Match my Project	Develop an online platform to enable supplier expertise and resource to be matched to community needs and projects	2025
VCSE Social Infrastructure	Establish future social infrastructure for VCSE requirements and commission with view to commissioning and awarding for 2026/27 financial year	April 2025 – April 2026
Reporting and Measuring Impact	<p>Review, update and develop reporting and measurement mechanisms across all areas in scope – commissioning, procurement, CWB and social value.</p> <p>This will include reestablishing a form of Annual Report that reflects on impact achieved through our procurement, CWB and social value activity in particular</p> <p>Agreeing corporate performance measures to be tracked from April 2025</p>	From April 2025
Governance and Assurance Arrangements	Consider and update the governance and assurance arrangements required to drive the delivery of actions and changes proposed in this report and to ensure appropriate oversight and assurance.	From April 2025

7.0 Governance and Assurance Arrangements

- 7.1 It is important that robust governance and assurance arrangements are established to drive the delivery of actions and changes proposed in this report and to ensure appropriate oversight and assurance.
- 7.2 There are several governance mechanisms already in place that will contribute to this including the current Commissioning and Procurement Board (CPB).
- 7.3 The purpose of the CPB is to ensure that Brent’s commissioning and procurement actively supports our Borough Plan and Corporate Priorities. Responsibilities of the CPB include the following – each of which will be reviewed:

Commissioning

- Support the sustainable delivery of outcomes through effective commissioning plans
- Consider other opportunities to bring capacity or resources into proposals, be this new external investment models or external capacity

- To identify and consider opportunities for innovative commissioning models and the piloting of new ways of commissioning collaboratively
- Consider where extra investment may be necessary where capability and capacity may limit the potential development and delivery of commissioning plans/proposals
- Ensure that commissioning plans and proposals have effectively applied the relative areas of the commissioning cycle, i.e. understand, plan, do and review, in their development to date, and if improvements need to be made support the delivery of these
- Through the Commissioning Network and Community of Practice ensure regular learning and development sessions are undertaken with officers across the council who are or could be involved in improving commissioning outcomes

Procurement

- Drive and monitor the delivery of the Procurement Strategy and associated savings and deliverables
- Conduct regular audits to ensure Contract Management Procedures and are implemented across the Council
- Promote effective contract management and review performance from across the council on a periodic basis

Cross cutting

- Ensure the principles of social value are embedded within all commissioning and procurement activities
- Promote challenge, innovation and entrepreneurial working in the organisation as well as within the commissioning, procurement and contract management cycle
- Promote and develop a learning culture; ensuring best practice, skills and knowledge are actively shared and Councillors are regular briefed and offered training sessions for their learning and development across the pillars of the Procurement Strategy
- Provide strategic guidance to major commissioning and procurement projects and build capacity and capability around commissioning and procurement across the Council
- Offer critical advice, support and recommendations

7.4 The purpose and terms of reference for the CPB will be refreshed alongside the outcome of the Procurement Review and additionally consideration will be given to introducing a more robust focus on key priority themes including scrutiny of social value in upcoming contracts, consideration of service provision approaches i.e. insourcing potential and opportunities, strategic commissioning approaches and oversight of social value delivery and impact.

8.0 Stakeholder and ward member consultation and engagement

8.1 The lead member for Climate Change and Community Power has reviewed and inputted to this report.

9.0 Financial Considerations

9.1 The approaches and changes set out in this report contribute to the Council's financial sustainability and aim to ensure we achieve best value for money from all our commissioning and procurement activity and are placed to maximise opportunities through community wealth building and social value to maximise inward investment and drive greater social, economic and environmental value that addresses community needs and generates greater positive impact for Brent.

10.0 Legal Considerations

10.1 The approaches and changes set out in this report include ensuring Procurement practice is developed so that it is efficient, effective, supports value for money for the Council and is compliant with forthcoming changes in legislation through the Procurement Act.

11.0 Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Considerations

11.1 There are no direct EDI implications arising from this report.

12.0 Climate Change and Environmental Considerations

12.1 Promoting sustainable procurement practices through the refreshed Procurement Strategy will contribute towards key climate change and environmental impact and the Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy Programme. Additionally, approaches set out in respect of social value and community wealth building will support positive impact, for example, by seeking social value commitments and activities in areas such as carbon reduction, use of clean and green technologies, supporting engagement and educational activity.

13.0 Communication Considerations

13.1 There are no direct communication implications from this report.

Report sign off:

Rachel Crossley
Corporate Director, Community Health & Wellbeing