

**REPORT TO:** Business Efficiency Board

**DATE:** 26<sup>th</sup> June 2013

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Operational Director – Finance

**SUBJECT:** Procurement Strategy 2013-2016

**PORTFOLIO:** Resources

**WARD(S):** Borough-wide

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the Council's updated Procurement Strategy for the period 2013 to 2016.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Council's 2013-16 Procurement Strategy presented in the Appendix, be approved.**

### **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION:**

3.1 The Council's Procurement Strategy provides a structured approach to procurement, in order to ensure efficient processes are followed which will deliver reduced costs whilst maintaining or improving service delivery.

3.2 The Procurement Strategy presented in the appendix has been updated in the light of experience since the centralised Procurement Division was established in 2010.

3.3 A Delivery Plan will be prepared in accordance with the Strategy and progress and outputs against key performance indicators will be reported annually to the Board.

### **4.0 'Best Council to do business with' Award (DCLG).**

4.1 The Council has received an award as 'Best council to do business with' from the Department of Communities and Local Government.

4.2 The award particularly commended Halton on the strong range of engagement activity in place with suppliers, the good use of the Chest portal, strong data collection systems and the use of key performance indicators. Overall it was felt that Halton was an excellent example of how a Council can open up procurement opportunities to small businesses.

## **5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 None.

## **6.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 None.

## **7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

7.1 The Procurement Strategy is designed to improve procurement practice across the Council, in order to reduce costs associated with procurement processes and to realise budget savings from more robust procurement activity. This supports the achievement of all of the Council's priorities.

## **8.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

8.1 Given the financial constraints facing the Council, failure to identify and realise savings from more robust procurement practice may result in the Council not achieving budget savings targets. The Procurement Strategy and procedures surrounding it are designed to ensure that efficient procurement practices are operated across the Council.

## **9.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

9.1 None.

## **10.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

10.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.