

Agenda

Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Tuesday, 24 January 2017, 2.00 pm
County Hall, Worcester

All County Councillors are invited to attend and participate

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اردو۔ اگر آپ اس دستاویز کی مضمولات کو سمجھنے سے قاصر ہیں اور کسی ایسے شخص تک آپ کی رسائی نہیں ہے جو آپ کے لئے اس کا ترجمہ کر سکے تو، براہ کرم مدد کے لئے 01905 765765 پر رابطہ کریں۔ (Urdu)

كوردی سۆزانی. نەگەر نەتوانی تێبەگهی له ناوچەزکی نەم بەلگهیە و دەستت بە هیچ کەس نەگات کە و ههیهگێزێتوه بۆت، تەکنیه تەلفۆن بکە بۆ ژمارهی 01905 765765 و داوای رێنۆینی بکە. (Kurdish)

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ। ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਸ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਦੇ ਮਸ਼ਹੂਨ ਸਮਝ ਨਹੀਂ ਸਕਦੇ ਅਤੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਅਜਿਹੇ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੋ, ਜੋ ਇਸਦਾ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਲਈ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰ ਸਕੇ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਮਦਦ ਲਈ 01905 765765 'ਤੇ ਫ਼ੋਨ ਕਰੋ। (Punjabi)

DISCLOSING INTERESTS

There are now 2 types of interests:
'Disclosable pecuniary interests' and **'other disclosable interests'**

WHAT IS A 'DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST' (DPI)?

- Any **employment**, office, trade or vocation carried on for profit or gain
- **Sponsorship** by a 3rd party of your member or election expenses
- Any **contract** for goods, services or works between the Council and you, a firm where you are a partner/director, or company in which you hold shares
- Interests in **land** in Worcestershire (including licence to occupy for a month or longer)
- **Shares** etc (with either a total nominal value above £25,000 or 1% of the total issued share capital) in companies with a place of business or land in Worcestershire.

NB Your DPIs include the interests of your spouse/partner as well as you

WHAT MUST I DO WITH A DPI?

- **Register** it within 28 days and
- **Declare** it where you have a DPI in a matter at a particular meeting
 - you must **not participate** and you **must withdraw**.

NB It is a criminal offence to participate in matters in which you have a DPI

WHAT ABOUT 'OTHER DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS'?

- No need to register them but
- You must **declare** them at a particular meeting where:
You/your family/person or body with whom you are associated have a **pecuniary interest** in or **close connection** with the matter under discussion.

WHAT ABOUT MEMBERSHIP OF ANOTHER AUTHORITY OR PUBLIC BODY?

You will not normally even need to declare this as an interest. The only exception is where the conflict of interest is so significant it is seen as likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

DO I HAVE TO WITHDRAW IF I HAVE A DISCLOSABLE INTEREST WHICH ISN'T A DPI?

Not normally. You must withdraw only if it:

- affects your **pecuniary interests OR** relates to a **planning or regulatory** matter
- **AND** it is seen as likely to **prejudice your judgement** of the public interest.

DON'T FORGET

- If you have a disclosable interest at a meeting you must **disclose both its existence and nature** – 'as noted/recorded' is insufficient
- **Declarations must relate to specific business** on the agenda
 - General scattergun declarations are not needed and achieve little
- Breaches of most of the **DPI provisions** are now **criminal offences** which may be referred to the police which can on conviction by a court lead to fines up to £5,000 and disqualification up to 5 years
- Formal **dispensation** in respect of interests can be sought in appropriate cases.

Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel Tuesday, 24 January 2017, 2.00 pm, County Hall Worcester

Membership

Councillors:

Mr C B Taylor (Chairman), Mr S R Peters (Vice Chairman), Mr S C Cross, Mrs P E Davey, Mr C G Holt, Mr R C Lunn, Mrs E B Tucker, Mr P A Tuthill and Vacancy

Agenda

Item No	Subject	Page No
1	Apologies and Welcome	
2	Declarations of Interest and of any Party Whip	
3	Public Participation <i>Members of the public wishing to take part should notify the Head of Legal and Democratic Services in writing or by e-mail indicating the nature and content of their proposed participation no later than 9.00am on the working day before the meeting (in this case 23 January 2017). Enquiries can be made through the telephone number/e-mail address below.</i>	
4	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting	
5	How the County Council can Support Local Businesses in terms of the Social Value Act and Locally Procured Services	1 - 4

Agenda produced and published by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP. To obtain further information or hard copies of this agenda, please contact Samantha Morris 01905 844963 or Alyson Grice 01905 844962, email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

All the above reports and supporting information can be accessed via the Council's website at [here](#)

Date of Issue: Monday, 16 January 2017

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CORPORATE AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 24 JANUARY 2017

HOW THE COUNTY COUNCIL CAN SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES IN TERMS OF THE SOCIAL VALUE ACT AND LOCALLY PROCURED SERVICES

Summary

1. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Transformation and Commissioning and the Market Management and Research Manager, Commercial Team have been invited to the meeting to discuss how the County Council can support local businesses in terms of the Social Value Act and locally procured services.

Background

2. During the Overview and Scrutiny Board's consultation on the annual Work Programme for 2016/17, this area was agreed as a priority for the Panel.

3. As part of Worcestershire County Council's (WCC) Open for Business Agenda, and our commitment to promote a World Class Worcestershire, the Council supports and promotes local business in the County or those relocating in Worcestershire in a variety of ways:

- Support the growth of existing businesses
- Provide direct support, particularly to start-ups, to help them survive and then grow
- Improve skill levels in the county and support the development of a skilled workforce
- Attract inward investment into the county
- Act in a business friendly way

4. This is in line with the Council's economic vision¹, and is supported by the Council's Economic Development Team, Worcestershire Business Central, and Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership.

5. The Council can also support local businesses through the procurement of goods and Council services. Low-value procurement (less than £25,000) can be done by the Council seeking multiple quotes from suppliers. Any service that will cost more than £25,000 must be procured through open tender process, and if the value of the contract is greater than the threshold for the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU), the tender must also be published in this journal. (Current OJEU thresholds for local authorities are £164,176 for service contracts and £4,104,394 for works).

¹ See for example

http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20296/worcestershire_corporate_plan/1223/open_for_business

6. The majority of the County Council's procured spend is tendered (i.e. above £25,000 in value) which means that for a supplier to be in with a chance of winning Council contracts, that supplier must tender for the work through the Council's e-tendering platform, called InTend.

7. Based on 2014/15 data, we estimate² that the council buys approximately three quarters of its commissioned services locally.

8. Worcestershire County Council has a well-established commissioning cycle (Evaluate, Design, Source, Review). Before any procurement is initiated, the council engages with service users, stakeholders and the supplier market to help evaluate need and supply, and inform the design of the service to be commissioned. In particular, the Commercial Team undertakes market engagement with suppliers to ensure that the final service design is one for which there is a viable market (i.e. to minimise the chances of trying to commission a service for which there is no supplier).

9. InTend³ is the County Council's e-tendering platform. Most procurement above £5,000 is managed through InTend (there are some exceptions including some social care packages which are brokered). Registering with this platform is the single most important thing a local supplier can do to increase their chances of finding out about opportunities to deliver contracts for the Council.

Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012

10. The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 requires the County Council (and all public bodies) to consider how the services they commission and procure might improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the local area. This Act provides a basis for local suppliers to gain a competitive advantage over non-local suppliers of comparable cost and quality.

11. Social value is wider than just local supply. Social value also provides a basis to consider economic, environmental and social factors in procuring goods and services, such as local workforce, waste management or corporate social responsibility (or CSR) of suppliers - in for example supporting the local voluntary and community sector (or VCS).

12. WCC Procurement Board has agreed that social value shall have 10% weighting in the evaluation of tenders of more than £100,000. This means that suppliers who can demonstrate that they can deliver social value in their tender submissions will stand a greater chance of winning the contract. However, social value alone is not enough to determine the outcome of a procurement exercise (this negates the likelihood of an expensive, low quality local provider winning a tender over a cheaper, better non-local supplier).

13. It may not be appropriate to apply Social Value to small contracts, but commissioners can ensure that local suppliers are approached for quotes if the value of the contract is below £25,000.

² This includes suppliers with headquarters outside Worcestershire but who operate from bases inside the county for WCC contracts.

³ <https://www.in-tendhost.co.uk/worcestershire/asp/Home>

14. In addition, the Council can also support local businesses through supporting and facilitating local suppliers to be part of the council's supply chain. This is an area of development for the council and improvements to commissioning activities are planned:

- Market engagement, to include more explicit networking opportunities for potential supply chain
- Advice and guidance for suppliers about tendering for Council services and becoming part of a local supply chain
- More proactive networking activity (such as "meet the buyer" events) to talk to local businesses interested in doing work for the council
- Earlier identification of local supplier market
- Redesign of the Council's website to provide simpler route for local businesses to register with InTend and identify potential opportunities
- Supply chain mapping to help the Council understand the extent and reach of its supply chain and further analysis of supply chain to understand how much of the councils commissioned spend remains within the county

Purpose of the Meeting

15. The Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel is asked to:

- Consider the information within the report
- Determine whether it would wish to carry out any further scrutiny, and
- Agree whether it would wish to make any comments to the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Transformation and Commissioning.

Contact Point for the Report

Rob Morris, Market Management and Research Manager, Commercial Team Tel: 01905 843469

Email: rmorris2@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here.](#)

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