

<b>Report To:</b>	<b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>30 MARCH 2022</b>
<b>Heading:</b>	<b>SOCIAL VALUE</b>
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	<b>NOT APPLICABLE</b>
<b>Ward/s:</b>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Subject to Call-In:</b>	<b>NO</b>

### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to present the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with information regarding how the Council utilises social value, following a resolution at the February 2022 meeting of the Committee that Members wish to receive further information regarding how social value is embedded at the Council.

### **Recommendation(s)**

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members are recommended to:

- a. Note the information contained within this report.
- b. Note the presentation on social value.
- c. Consider any comments/recommendations to be made to Cabinet.

### **Reasons for Recommendation(s)**

At the February 2022 meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Members resolved that they wished to receive further information regarding social value.

### **Alternative Options Considered**

No alternative options have been considered.

## Detailed Information

### BACKGROUND

At the previous meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 17 February 2022, Members discussed the annual budget update and the corporate plan 2021/22 progress update. As part of these discussions, the following actions were resolved by Members:

- a. *the ongoing development work being undertaken in procurement and the local business directory was welcomed and the Committee is keen that local businesses and buying local wherever possible should continue to be a priority*
- b. *as part of Scrutiny's ongoing role in budget considerations, the Committee would be receiving an overview of how social value is taken into account to consider how the Council's current contracts have incorporated this within their recent procurement activity*

As a result of these resolutions, the Council's Procurement and Project Officer has been invited to attend a meeting of the Committee to provide Members with an overview of how the Council utilises social value through procurement, and any future plans to develop the embedding of social value.

### LEGISLATION

The Public Services (Social Value) Act came into force on 31 January 2013. It requires people who commission public services to think about how they can also secure wider social, economic, and environmental benefits.<sup>1</sup>

Before starting any procurement process, commissioners should think about whether the service they are going to buy, or the way they are going to buy them, could secure those benefits for their area or stakeholders.

### CABINET – MARCH 2020

At the Cabinet meeting held in March 2020, a report titled *Social Value Policy and Initiatives* was presented to Cabinet for approval.

The report set out the rationale for implementing a Social Value Policy into all activity that the Council undertakes. The 2020 report set out the methodology used for introducing social value reporting to measure activities that are not covered by traditional return on investment analysis.

Cabinet was recommended to:

- a. Consider and approve the Council's Social Value Policy.

As stated in the report, social value relates to the additional benefits that can be achieved beyond the direct scope of a project or contract. The Social Value Policy sets out the Council's commitment to social value and the added societal benefits that can be gained from projects and public procurement.

The Council's Social Value Policy was formally approved by Cabinet at this meeting. The Policy is appended to this report as **Appendix A**.

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<sup>1</sup> *Social Value Act: Information and Resources*, March 2021.

## **Implications**

### **Corporate Plan:**

Social value is incorporated in the following:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Homes and Housing
- Economic Growth and Place
- Cleaner and Greener
- Safer and Stronger
- Innovate and Improve

### **Legal:**

There are no direct legal implications resulting from this report.

### **Finance:**

<b>Budget Area</b>	<b>Implication</b>
General Fund – Revenue Budget	None.
General Fund – Capital Programme	
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	

### **Risk:**

None identified at this stage.

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>

### **Human Resources:**

There are no direct HR implications resulting from this report.

### **Environmental/Sustainability**

There are no direct environmental/sustainability implications resulting from this report.

### **Equalities:**

There are no direct equalities implications resulting from this report.

## **Other Implications:**

There are no other implications resulting from this report.

## **Reason(s) for Urgency**

None.

## **Reason(s) for Exemption**

None.

## **Background Papers**

- *Social Value Act and Resources*, March 2021
- *Social Value Policy and Initiatives*, 23 March 2020.

## **Report Author and Contact Officer**

Shane Wright  
Scrutiny Research Officer  
[shane.wright@ashfield.gov.uk](mailto:shane.wright@ashfield.gov.uk)  
01623 457318

## **Sponsoring Director**

Ruth Dennis  
Director of Legal and Governance  
[ruth.dennis@ashfield.gov.uk](mailto:ruth.dennis@ashfield.gov.uk)  
01623 457009