

STAR JOINT COMMITTEE

16 DECEMBER 2020

PRESENT

Councillors Ali (Rochdale Council), T. Ross (Trafford Council), Ryan (in the Chair, Tameside Council) and McGee (Stockport Council)

In attendance

Lorraine Cox	Director, STAR Procurement
Nicola Cooke	Assistant Director (Delivery), STAR Procurement
Elizabeth McKenna	Assistant Director (Development), STAR Procurement
Julie Murphy	Chief Finance Officer, Rochdale Council
Tom Wilkinson	Assistant Director Finance, Tameside Council
Emma Sharples	Solicitor, Trafford Council
Fabiola Fuschi	Governance Officer, Trafford Council

21. ATTENDANCES

There were no apologies for absence received.

22. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 16th September 2020 be approved as a correct record.

23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

24. 5-STAR 2020/21 QUARTER 2 PROGRESS REPORT

The Joint Committee considered a progress report of the STAR Assistant Director (Development) which informed of the 2020/21 Quarter 2 performance measures of STAR Procurement.

The report author informed that ratified savings were half way to target and work was ongoing with commissioning and finance to look at further savings. Despite the difficulties presented by the pandemic, Return on Investment and Income were also close to achieve target. Local spend was above target of 50%. In terms of Compliance, the team was working closely to Verified Spend.

Members sought clarification on performance on Social Value target against Contract Value. Officers explained that this was due to uncertainty in the market and suppliers not able to commit due to the pandemic. Consequently, STAR had changed Social Value towards Covid-19 related activities which led to improved performance in Quarter 2.

Members commended the work of STAR team for the remarkable achievements and the resilience showed during this difficult time. Members stressed the importance of local spend during the pandemic and for the future and look forward to Quarter 3 and a successful year.

RESOLVED that the content of 2020/21 Quarter 2 report be noted.

25. STAR PROCUREMENT STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER

The Joint Committee considered a report of the STAR Assistant Director (Development) which sought to provide an update on the STAR Risk Register.

The author of the report informed that the STAR wider leadership team revised and updated this document on a regular basis in line with best practice. The document was presented to the Joint Committee and to the Board annually. New risks had been added to the register to reflect the impact of the pandemic on STAR service delivery and this was evident on the “heat map”. Other risks had been removed. Some risks had increased.

Members sought and received clarification on matters such as remote working, staff morale and impact on the organisations, securing income by carefully looking at procurement efficiency and collaboration, impact of the UK’s withdrawal from the European Union (Brexit) for STAR supplier network, for example the food contract for all schools across Greater Manchester.

RESOLVED:-

1. That the content of the report be noted;
2. That, STAR will keep Joint Committee informed of any changes or implications from BREXIT.

26. STAR PROCUREMENT CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

The Joint Committee considered a report of the STAR Assistant Directors (Delivery and Development) which sought to update on the Star Procurement improvements to date and future plans for both delivery and development side of the organisation.

The Officers informed of the full implementation of Tableau, the Financial Data Management and Performance Management system and related benefits and the Virtual Meeting Buyer event with over 600 bookings and positive feedback. Officers also outlined the ongoing work on a data protocol to ensure consistency and confidence in reporting and the collaboration with Trafford Communications Team to launch the new business plan in January 2021. STAR Procurement had delivered £1.1M of Social Value through its employees during a 12 month period. Officers also described further plans for continuous improvement.

Members sought and received clarification on implementation and early progress on commitment to Councils for Fair Tax Declaration and implications for

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procurement. Members also expressed their support to the use of Tableau and necessary resources to maximise its implementation.

RESOLVED:-

1. That STAR Procurement improvements to date and future plans be noted.
2. That an update be provided from Councils for Fair Tax Declaration be presented in due course.

27. URGENT BUSINESS (IF ANY)

There were no items of urgent business received.

28. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Joint Committee noted time and date of next meeting: 24th March 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

29. EXCLUSION RESOLUTION

RESOLVED that the public be excluded from this meeting during consideration of the remaining items on the agenda, because of the likelihood of disclosure of “exempt information” which falls within category 3 of the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, as amended by The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, and specified on the agenda item or report relating to each such item respectively.

30. STAR PROCUREMENT BUDGET POSITION QUARTER 2 2021 INCLUDING FUNDING REQUIREMENTS FOR 21/22, 22/23 AND PROPOSED RESERVES COMMITMENTS

The Joint Committee considered a report of the STAR Assistant Director (Delivery) which sought to update STAR Joint Committee on the STAR Procurement budget position at Q2 20/21, propose the forecast STAR Procurement funding requirements for 21/22, 22/23 for review and request approval of the STAR reserves commitments.

RESOLVED: -

1. That the STAR Procurement budget position at Q2 20/21 be considered;
2. That the forecast STAR Procurement funding requirements for 21/22 and 22/23 be reviewed;
3. That the proposed reserves commitments be approved.

The meeting commenced at 2:00 p.m. and finished at 2:50 p.m.