

**LOCAL PROCUREMENT
(Report by the Head Democratic and Central Services)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Two reports of meetings on local procurement are submitted for endorsement by the Panel.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In 2006, the former Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Service Support) established a Working Group to carry out a study on local procurement by the Council and its role in promoting the local economy. The Working Group's report and recommendations were endorsed by the Panel in January 2007.

3. REPORTS

- 3.1 As this study has recently has been transferred to the Economic Well-Being Panel, the Working Group's report is attached for information at Appendix A.
- 3.2 The Working Group produced further reports in March and December 2007 and October 2008 on its subsequent meetings with representatives of the local business community. Since the Economic Well-Being Panel's last meeting it has come to light that, owing to an over-run in its business, the report of the Local Procurement meeting on 12th March 2009 could not be considered by the former Service Support Panel before its meeting was adjourned. This report is attached at Appendix B for Members' consideration.
- 3.2 At its last meeting the Panel for Economic Well-Being decided that as the Strategic Partnership's Economic Prosperity and Skills Thematic Group has local procurement in its remit, in order to prevent duplication, the Thematic Group should be asked to assume responsibility for local procurement. This was further justified on the grounds that the same organisations from within the local business community were represented at both Local Procurement meetings and at meetings of the Economic Prosperity and Skills Thematic Group.
- 3.3 A meeting between the Working Group and representatives of local businesses had already been arranged. This meeting proceeded and the report of that meeting is attached at Appendix C.

4. RECOMMENDATION

The Panel is

RECOMMENDED

to endorse the reports attached as Appendices for submission to the Economic Prosperity and Skills Thematic Group.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

Minutes and Reports of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Service Support)

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