

Appendix B

Response #	From	Area Commented On	Comment	Comments/ Action (if any)
1	Waveney District Council & Suffolk Coastal District Council	General	SCDC and WDC Procurement Strategy will be reviewed later this year and will be tailored to the National Procurement Strategy which is being launched at the LGA Conference in July. This maybe something you wish to consider also if not already? I am of the opinion if possible for the Districts to have a broadly similar Procurement Strategy however with consideration for Localism.	Action – None. We already made reference to the Key themes from proposed National Procurement Strategy.
2	Suffolk County Council	General	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your draft procurement strategy for West Suffolk (2014-16).</p> <p>Many congratulations on a well written document. Your strategy contains the essential elements of a public sector procurement strategy in line with the latest government thinking around procurement and anticipates some of the changes to be implemented in the major re-write of the EU Procurement regime. The timing of your launch should therefore be choreographed to coincide with the realisation of these changes, particularly around self-certification.</p> <p>There are one or two things which I think may enhance your strategy and reflect the wider intentions of the National Procurement Strategy. For example, you might consider the benefits of wider public sector collaborative commissioning and making use of opportunities for joint procurement albeit within the constraints of developing a local supply base.</p> <p>I suspect the FSB, who have also been invited to comment, will have a view on your supply base and how you classify spend. Your strategy for example, makes no commitment to increasing</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted. Thank you. New EU Rules are coming going to be implemented in the UK within March, 2016. Dates yet to be confirmed by Cabinet office. We can not delay launch of West Suffolk procurement Strategy for indefinite period.</p> <p>Noted. We already made reference to the Key themes from proposed National Procurement Strategy.</p> <p>Noted. Proposed West Suffolk Procurement Strategy already</p>

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		<p>the level of business to be awarded to local SME's, and there is no baseline to assess any growth towards a target. Equally, you might go further to commit to working with tier one suppliers to a) achieve social outcomes and b) increase both direct (as sub-contractors) and indirect (as suppliers to tier one suppliers generally) business for local SME's and hence achieve economic growth for West Suffolk.</p> <p>You quite rightly make significant mention of electronic procurement which will become an increasing feature for us over the next few years. West Suffolk have been a very strong advocate of 'Suffolk Sourcing' which is the collaborative hub for local authority procurement in Suffolk. I would certainly like to see an on-going commitment to using it reflected in the strategy because in work being done at county level with the Chamber of Commerce and FSB, we are majoring on Suffolk Sourcing in this context and providing significant levels of support to SME's in getting registered and accessing relevant opportunities. We have recently introduced Twitter feeds @SuffolkSourcing and @SuffolkPCM to promote opportunities and general procurement information.</p> <p>In a similar context you mention dynamic purchasing systems (DPS) and electronic catalogues. Both of these are highlighted in changes to the EU Regulations and will become a more significant feature of procurement in future. Suffolk Sourcing currently has DPS capability and we would be happy to explore this with you especially in light of the changes proposed in the EU regulations.</p> <p>I hope these thoughts provide some 'food for thought' and that you feel able to reflect them in your final version. I would be more than happy to have a chat with Ziaul at any time to go</p>	<p>talks about supporting SME's and West Suffolk business.</p> <p>Noted. Thank you. Electronic procurement will be at the heart of procurement activities for West Suffolk in line with best practice recommendations.</p>
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			through them or to offer any specific advice that may be required.	
3	Flourishing People, Local Business	5. Supporting Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs)	My experience with other LAs is that they still award contracts to a single larger organisation who can deliver on all lots as it's easier for them to manage one single contract than several smaller ones. Also an element of risk aversion in respect of smaller suppliers. How will they overcome this?	Proposed Joint Procurement Strategy already requires buyers to actively consider separating contracts into smaller parts or lots to facilitate SME participation; [ref : 5. Supporting Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs)]. It can not be made mandatory due to different practical reasons.
		5. Supporting Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs)	Similar to my point above. My experience is that when larger contractors win a contract they already have their supply network in place and there is very little opportunity to break into this. Unless LA insist on use of local supply chain as a condition of contract it is unlikely to happen.	Although there is no legal sanction if we use such a condition in contracts below the EU threshold there is reputational risk as the authority can be reported to the Cabinet office via the <i>Extended Supplier Feedback Service</i> . Further it would be contrary to the E U Treaty Principles particularly that of Open competition. However there is no reason why the authority could not encourage the use of a local supply chain.

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		6. Supporting West Suffolk Businesses & Local Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) through Procurement	Important to include the Suffolk B2B portal but also direct info to Chambers for us to share with members not on the portal	<p>All Local Authorities from Suffolk agreed to use 'Suffolk Sourcing System' as their electronic procurement system. 'Suffolk Sourcing System' deals with end to end procurement process including advertisement and awarding.</p> <p>Suffolk B2B portal is a another portal maintained by Suffolk Chambers of Commerce for publishing quotation/tender opportunities from both private and public sectors.</p> <p>There is an ongoing discussion between Suffolk County Council (who owns Suffolk Sourcing System) to see if a data feed can be facilitated from 'Suffolk Sourcing System' to 'Suffolk B2B Portal'.</p>