

**From:** Graham Gibbens, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care  
Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing

**To:** Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee – 20 July 2017

**Subject:** **ADULT SOCIAL CARE – SOCIAL VALUE FRAMEWORK**

**Classification:** Unrestricted

**Past Pathway of Paper:** None

**Future Pathway of Paper:** None

**Electoral Division:** All

**Summary:** This paper presents the Adult Social Care – Social Value Act Framework to the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee

Recommendation: The Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee is asked to **NOTE** the co-productive approach taken to develop the Adult Social Care – Social Value Framework and **ENDORSE** its use in all commissioning activity.

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 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.
- 1.2 The Act states that before they start the procurement process, commissioners should think about whether the services they are going to buy, or the way they are going to buy them, could secure these benefits for their area or stakeholders.
- 1.3 The Act is a tool to help commissioners get more value for money out of procurement. It also encourages commissioners to talk to their local provider market or community to design better services, often finding new and innovative solutions to difficult problems.
- 1.4 To support implementation of the Social Value Act and help embed the Act within commissioning authorities practice the Cabinet Office announced a small fund for Social Value Act - Implementation and Measurement Projects. The Strategic Commissioning Division along with the Skillnet Group put in a joint bid to this fund with the emphasis of co-producing guidance for commissioning staff to use.

- 1.5 The bid was successful, one of only eight sites chosen nationally, the feedback received was one of the reasons the bid was successful was because it was 'sector-specific' in focusing solely on adult social care.

## 2 Policy Context

- 2.1 KCC strategic Statement, *Increasing Opportunity, Improving Outcomes* states the need to maximise social value from the services commissioned: KCC services have a social purpose and therefore the Council must become smarter at determining social value through the commissioning process, especially where it is seeking to leverage social value through the commissioning of services from external providers (for example, in the form of requiring providers to take on apprentices).
- 2.2 Principle 9 of KCC Commissioning Framework is **We Will Maximise Social Value**. That we will plan how to maximise the community benefits through any commissioning activity that is being undertaken. The same considerations of social value will apply to all commissioning that undertaken, the focus will be on social value priorities that are most relevant to the Council and from the earliest possible stage, as a standard part of designing and specifying any KCC service, social value outcomes will be incorporated and consideration given as to how equality can be advanced, where relevant and in a proportionate way.
- 2.3 Although only required to comply with the Social Value Act when procuring services above the threshold value, the Council's commitment to maximising the community benefits of its expenditure means the same considerations will apply to all commissioning undertaken, for goods and services. The way these considerations apply will differ from case to case, however the commitment to improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of Kent will be consistent.

## 3 Key Issues

- 3.1 Although as evidenced above utilising the Social Value Act in commissioning activities is central to KCC Strategic intent and commissioning approach, there was no formal guidance on how to use the act to full effect. Commissioners were using social value but often as, an add on, the last question in a tender; "tell us what you will do to add social value". Commissioners need to be more creative and really think how they can use the act to create wider outcomes in all commissioning activity.
- 3.2 As part of our Care Act market shaping responsibilities the Council has a duty to help shape care and support markets across Kent. Taking a co-productive approach to developing a framework for the social value act is the most appropriate approach to understand from both providers and end users what social value means to them and how we might best work together to create the best added value through our commissioning endeavours.

- 3.3 The framework (attached as Appendix 1) is based around the commissioning cycle with guidance about how to consider and maximise social value throughout all commissioning activities.
- 3.4 The work was supported from within strategic commissioning with support from procurement and strategic and corporate services, with Clare Maynard, Procurement Category Manager, Craig Merchant, Procurement Manager, and Felicity Adams, Business Manager, being part of the core development team.
- 3.5 The framework was completed and agreed fit for purpose and use by the Social Care Health and Wellbeing Directorate Management Team in November 2016. Commissioning staff have been using the framework since then. Following discussions with senior officers and the Cabinet Member this is being presented to the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee for their information.

#### 4 Recommendations

<p>4.1 Recommendations: The Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee is asked to <b>NOTE</b> the co-productive approach taken to develop the Adult Social Care – Social Value Framework and <b>ENDORSE</b> its use in all commissioning activity.</p>
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#### 5. Background Documents

None

#### 6. Lead Officer

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