

Written response to: Business & Transformation Scrutiny Panel

Resolution: That the Procurement team provide the Panel with further information regarding areas of procurement where the Council finds it difficult to appoint local suppliers and contractors.

Written response from:

Finance Officer (Procurement)

Response: The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and The EC Treaty Procurement Principles ensure that all procurement activities are non-discriminatory and that all suppliers and contractors are treated equally and without discrimination. They also ensure that we act in a transparent and proportionate manner with no intent to exclude contractors nor to artificially narrow competition, by unduly favouring or disadvantaging certain contractors.

Therefore, there are only limited circumstances under which we would specifically limit the scope to local suppliers, an example being emergency call outs/repairs etc. or if we required an on-site presence within a certain time frame. In these situations, we have not had any difficulty in appointing local operators.