

Note from: David Outram, Chief Officer PPPU and Procurement Unit
To: Councillor Driver, Chair of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee

Subject: Transforming Procurement Programme

Date: 26th March 2012

- 1 The council is undertaking a review of its approach to procurement and contracting through a 'Transforming Procurement Programme'.
- 2 The council spends a third of its revenue budget and almost all of its capital budget on goods, works and services purchased from outside the organisation.
- 3 The aim of the programme is to ensure that the procurement processes that support this expenditure are the best in the country, where:
 - We achieve value for money for the public – generating savings and ensuring efficient use of resources;
 - We support the delivery of quality outcomes for service users – making sure that we are buying the right things at the right time, meeting the needs of residents and supporting quality front line service delivery;
 - We support the wider ambitions of the council and its partners – making sure that the money we spend contributes to the priorities that we have for Leeds, supporting the economic and social well-being of the city.
- 4 The council is gathering information and best practice examples from a range of sources to inform the review, and is consulting with partners in the third sector and the private sector.
- 5 The outcome of the review is due to be presented to Executive Board next year (March 2013), but 'quick wins' are being implemented along the way, and pilots are currently being delivered in Children's Services and Housing Services.
- 6 A report on how we can better align our procurement power to supporting employment and skills in the city will be presented to Executive Board this spring. The proposal is 'ready to go' and includes draft contract terms and training for staff in their use.
- 7 I am sorry not to be able to see this programme of work through to its full fruition, but am happy to leave it in the capable hands of the Leader of the Council, Councillor Wakefield.