

Report subject	Social Value Statement for BCP Council
Meeting date	27 May 2026
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	BCP Council does not have a Social Value Policy nor a Social Value Statement. In June 2025, CMB convened a Social Value Working Group to develop the Council's Social Value Statement, aligned to priorities within the Corporate Plan and BCP's Procurement and Contract Management Strategy. Scope of the Social Value Statement includes leveraging social value through: • Procurement and contract management • External offers relating to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) • Planning • Economic Development • Community-based projects. This Report has been brought to Cabinet for a decision to adopt the Social Value Statement. The Social Value Statement is presented at Appendix 1.
Recommendations	It is RECOMMENDED that: Cabinet approves the Social Value Statement for adoption.
Reason for recommendations	To align stakeholders across all council services and ensure a consistent organisation-wide approach, aligned with the Council's priorities, stretching beyond procurement to improve benefits for our communities and residents.
Portfolio Holder(s):	• Cllr Jeff Hanna, Cabinet Member for Transformation • Cllr Sandra Moore, Cabinet Member for Communities and Partnerships

Corporate Director	Aidan Dunn, Chief Executive
Report Authors	Stuart Bickel, Head of Procurement and Contract Management Cat McMillan, Head of Communities, Partnerships & Community Safety
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For Decision

Background

1. The Social Value Act 2012 came into effect on 31st January 2013 and placed a requirement on public sector commissioners to consider how they can use procurement process to secure wider economic, social and environmental benefits.
2. Alongside the statutory requirements of the Act there is an opportunity to adopt a wider definition of Social Value which details the Council's aspirations around leveraging social benefits through its work across the council, aligned to the Corporate Plan.
3. A Social Value Statement will align stakeholders across various services and ensure a consistent organisation-wide approach.
4. Between June and September 2025, the UK Government initiated a major consultation to build on the Procurement Act 2023 and ensure public procurement plays a stronger role in supporting UK industrial strategy, local jobs and skills, SME and VCSE participation and the delivery of measurable social value across public contracts.
5. Concurrently, in June 2025, CMB convened a Social Value Working Group to develop the Council's Social Value Statement, aligned to priorities within the Corporate Plan and BCP's Procurement and Contract Management Strategy.
6. Scope of the Social Value Statement includes leveraging social value through:
 - a. Procurement and contract management
 - b. External offers relating to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
 - c. Planning
 - d. Economic Development
 - e. Community-based projects.
7. The Social Value Statement was developed in consultation with officers from various services including Procurement and Contract Management, Communities, Partnerships & Community Safety, IT, Planning, Childrens Commissioning, Adult Commissioning, Economic Development, Sustainability, Environment, Greenspace and Conservation, Leisure and Smart Place.
8. The Social Value Statement was approved by:
 - a. Procurement Board on 13/10/2025

- b. Procurement Portfolio Holder, Cllr Jeff Hanna, on 14/10/2025
- c. CMB on 06/01/2026

Options Appraisal

- 9. **Option 1** – Do Nothing – Do not publish a Social Value Policy nor Social Value Statement. This option is **unfavourable** because it does nothing to improve on the current confusion and misunderstanding surrounding the subject of social value, for both officers and suppliers. This option fails to align with best practice designed to optimise the delivery of social value benefits.
- 10. **Option 2 – Recommended** - Adopt a Social Value Statement that is aligned with the full set of 116 Local Government Association measures (see Appendix 2 - Tender Response Part F - Social Value Measures). This option is **recommended** because inclusion of the full set of 116 measures enables maximum supplier innovation in benefits delivery. This option enables direct social value performance comparison of the Council relative to other contracting authorities. This would be the first phase of the Council's approach towards social value with a second phase proposed to look at social value and corporate social responsibility outside of Procurement and Contract Management.
- 11. **Option 3** – Adopt a Social Value Statement with a narrowed focus of around 10 of the 116 Local Government Association measures. The advantage of this option is that it would enable the Council to target a smaller number of the 116 measures that are most directly aligned with the Council's Corporate Plan. This option is **unfavourable** because (i) there would be prerequisite local needs analysis activity that would have a financial impact and cause delay, (ii) a smaller number of measures would restrict supplier innovation in benefits delivery, (iii) this option only partly enables direct social value performance comparison of the Council relative to other contracting authorities – this would likely appear that the Council was underperforming in its delivery of social value when compared to others.
- 12. **Option 4** - Adopt a Social Value Statement with a fully bespoke set of measures. The advantage of this option is that it would enable the Council to fully align its social value measures with the Council's priorities. This option is **unfavourable**. The disadvantage is that such an approach will not support performance comparison with other organisations. This is also more onerous on suppliers who would need to learn another way of bidding and measuring social value commitments. Suppliers have a strong preference for consistency amongst different contracting authorities as this reduces the cost burden of bidding. Investment of resources into developing a bespoke approach for the Council risks abortive work as and when UK Government implements mandatory social value standards further to the consultation referenced in section 5 above.

Summary of financial implications

- 13. There are no capital and revenue income or expenditure implications associated with this report.

Summary of legal implications

- 14. The Council has the legal powers to make and implement the decision described.

15. The Procurement Act 2023 requires authorities to “have regard to the importance of maximising public benefit” in above-threshold procurements - Section 12(1)(b).

Summary of human resources implications

16. There are no People implications arising from this report.
17. There is no significant impact in terms of reduction or increase in jobs/roles.
18. This report will not significantly change ways of working as stated in employment contracts. Changes to ways of working for colleagues in Procurement and Contract Management are within scope of employment contracts.
19. There are no staff development or training requirements beyond those that will be routinely met by Procurement and Contract Management.
20. This report does not impact a particular demographic or characteristic that would require a full Equality Impact Assessment.
21. There are no potential transfer of a service or contract / TUPE implications.
22. There is no impact on personal data, payroll or pensions.
23. The Council's Communications team will be engaged to share messaging on the Council's adoption of a Social Value Statement.

Summary of sustainability impact

24. The sustainability impact of the decision being sought is beneficial. Social value measures include 37 that are geared specifically towards improving 'Planet' outcomes.
25. With respect to BCP's Decision Impact Assessment (DIA) Proposal ID: 763, consultation with reviewers was between 17/03/2026 and 25/03/2026 and only positive feedback was received from reviewers.
26. The carbon impact of DIA Proposal ID 763 is low.
27. See Appendix 3 for full Decision Impact Assessment Final Report ID 763

Summary of public health implications

28. The public health and wellbeing impact of the decision being sought is beneficial. Social value measures include 6 that are geared specifically towards improving public health and wellbeing outcomes.

Summary of equality implications

29. The equality impact of the decision being sought is beneficial. Social value measures include some that are geared specifically towards improving equality outcomes.
30. An EIA conversation/screening document was completed and submitted on 30/03/2026. Whilst EIA panels have been stopped due to a lack of capacity, comments and feedback were provided by a Policy Officer which have been addressed. The updated and final EIA Conversation Screening Tool was returned to BCP Equalities.
31. The Impact Assessment summary from the above is copied and linked below:

- a. Impact on people with protected characteristics
 - i. The Social Value Statement is not forecast to have any impact, positive or negative on any group of people with protected characteristics and therefore no mitigating actions/ resolutions have been identified as needed.
- b. Impact on local protected groups
 - i. Benefits have been identified that relate to:
 - 1. improved local employment prospects
 - 2. local market development
 - ii. Overall, the Social Value Statement is expected to have a neutral or positive equality impact. It does not restrict opportunities for any protected group and instead encourages suppliers to deliver commitments that support employment, skills, community wellbeing and environmental outcomes.
 - iii. The Statement creates opportunities for positive impacts on groups who may experience disadvantage, including young people, disabled people, veterans, care-experienced young people and those from lower socio-economic backgrounds. However, as the Statement provides a framework rather than specific projects, the scale of these impacts will vary and will be more precisely evidenced at the point of each individual procurement exercise.
 - iv. No negative equality impacts have been identified. No mitigating actions are required at this stage, although individual procurements will include their own equality considerations and mitigation where relevant.
 - v. Individual procurements undertaken under the Social Value Statement will include separate equality assessments where the scale, nature or beneficiaries of the contract indicate a potential impact on people with protected characteristics.
- c. See Appendix 4 for full Social Value Statement - EIA Conversation Screening Tool.

Summary of risk assessment

- 32. No risks have been identified that may arise as a result of the implementation of any recommendations.

Background papers

BCP Council's [Procurement and Contract Management Strategy for 2024 to 2028](#) – Published works.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Social Value Statement

Appendix 2 - Tender Response Part F - Social Value Measures (LGA 2024) (TEM042)

Appendix 3 - Decision Impact Assessment Final Report ID 763

Appendix 4 – Social Value Statement - EIA Conversation Screening Tool

Appendix 5 - Appendix 1 to Social Value Statement - National TOMs 2024 Complete procurement measure set (116) LGA