# OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Agenda Item 39

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Scrutiny Panel report on social value
Date of Meeting:	27 January 2014
Report of:	Head of Policy and Communities
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Ward(s) affected:	All

#### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

## 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The initial request for a Scrutiny Panel to look at the implementation of the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 came from the Community and Voluntary Sector Forum (now known as Community Works).
- 1.2 The Panel comprised Councillor Bill Randall (Chair), Councillor Anne Meadows and Councillor Dee Simson. (Councillor Christina Summers took part in the initial scoping meeting but pressure of work meant she then stepped down as a Panel member).
- 1.3 The Scrutiny Panel report is attached as **Appendix 1.**

## 2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**:

2.1 That Overview and Scrutiny Members Committee endorse the report and forward it to the relevant policy committee for consideration.

## 3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Panel set out to consider what social value means to Brighton & Hove City Council, what best practice exists and how to put the Social Value Act to best use in procurement and commissioning. There is already a substantial body of research into social value, what it means and how it can be used. The Panel had no desire to replicate work or to undertake an academic exercise into what is meant by social value. Rather it tasked itself with taking a quick 'snapshot' of what is happening in the council (and to a limited extent its partners), to emphasis best practise, and to make suggestions for the way forward.
- 3.2 The Panel held a private scoping meeting and two evidence gathering sessions. On 4 September 2014 they heard from Andy Witham, Category Manager for Adult Social Care, Corporate Procurement; Anne Richardson-Locke, Commissioning Manager, Adult Social Care; Judith Cooper, Contracts Manager, Adult Social Care; James Cryer, Partnership Manager, Mears; Geoff Raw, Executive Director, Environment, Development and Housing; and Annie

Alexander, Public Health Programme Manager. On 18 September 2014 they heard from Laura Williams, Representation and Partnerships Manager, Community Works and Caroline Ridley, Impact Initiatives; Michelle Pooley, Community Engagement Co-ordinator and Sam Warren, City Neighbourhood Coordinator; Geraldine Hoban, Chief Operating Officer, Clinical Commissioning Group.

3.3 The recommendations in the report are aimed at providing clarity around social value, included adopting a definition, providing a glossary and considering measuring, weighting, and measurement. The full set of recommendations can be found at p28 of the Scrutiny Report.

## 4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

4. The Panel heard from a number of people and organisations in a short timescale. No formal consultation process was undertaken by the Panel. A number of related consultations were ongoing during the Panel's inquiry.

#### 5. CONCLUSION

6.1 In line with normal procedure, we are asking that the OSC endorses this report and refers it on to the appropriate BHCC Policy Committee(s) for consideration.

## 7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

7.1 The financial implications of the recommendations from the scrutiny panel will be assessed in the context of the Council's budget strategy when the recommendations are considered by the policy committees.

Finance Officer Consulted: Anne Silley Date:

Legal Implications:

7.2 Once OSC has agreed its recommendations based on the work of the scrutiny panel, it must prepare a formal report and submit it to the council's Chief Executive for consideration at the relevant decision-making body.

Lawyer Consulted: Oliver Dixon Date:

#### Equalities Implications:

7.3 The Social Value Act should be viewed as a tool to facilitate discussions with other organisations in the city on how to provide the best services possible – with enhanced benefits for individuals and communities locally.

#### Sustainability Implications:

7.4 None identified in this covering report.

Any Other Significant Implications:

# **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

# Appendices:

1.

## **Documents in Members' Rooms**

None

# **Background Documents**

1.