



Subject:	Motion – Rights-based Ethical Procurement Policy
Date:	23rd February, 2024
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Democratic Services and Governance Manager

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted? Yes No

Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.

- Insert number
1. Information relating to any individual
 2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual
 3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)
 4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter
 5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained
 6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction
 7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in? Yes No

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
	To bring to Members' attention a motion in relation to Rights-based Ethical Procurement Policy, which the Standards and Business Committee considered at its meeting on 23rd January.
2.0	Recommendation
	<p>Members are asked to note that in accordance with Standing Order 13(i) that Notices of Motion which commit the Council to expenditure must be referred to the appropriate committee for consideration and report.</p> <p>At this time Members are only asked to note that the Notice of Motion has been received and that a subsequent report will be brought to Committee outlining a detailed consideration of the Notice of Motion and the potential costs implications.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Standards and Business Committee, at its meeting on 23rd January, considered the following motion which had been received for submission to the Council on 1st February:</p> <p><u>Rights-based Ethical Procurement Policy</u></p> <p>“This Council deplores those corporations that profit from protracted armed conflict and systematic violations of human rights, particularly in the context of Israel’s continuing brutal assault on the people of Gaza and escalating settler terrorism in the West Bank, Russia’s ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine, and other conflicts around the world. With this motion, the Council encourages companies to meet their obligations to avoid contributing to adverse human rights impacts through their own activities, and to prevent or mitigate human rights abuses linked to their operations.</p> <p>The Council is aware of the crucial role of local authorities and their public procurement procedures in ensuring respect for human rights by companies, as well as their obligations under widely accepted business and human rights norms – as laid down in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, and the Global Sullivan Principles (1999) – to promote respect for human rights by companies with which they do business.</p> <p>The Council affirms that every endeavour is made to ensure that councils tender processes are consistent with the above principles, including under the Fourth Geneva convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War and under customary international humanitarian law, prohibiting the importation or sale of goods or services originating in occupied territories.</p> <p>This Council resolves to adopt a rights-based Ethical Procurement Policy (EPP) that takes fully into account existing obligations and standards. The EPP will incorporate widely accepted and precisely formulated international standards and explain clearly how the policy will be implemented. The primary aim of the EPP is to ensure that</p>

<p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p>	<p>human rights obligations are properly acknowledged, observed and respected at all stages of the procurement process.”</p> <p>Proposer: Councillor Bronach Anglin</p> <p>Seconder: Councillor Aine McCabe</p> <p>The motion calls upon the Council to adopt a rights-based Ethical Procurement Policy (EPP) - the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee is responsible for procurement and the motion has been referred to this Committee.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None at this stage as there is no commitment to proceed with the Notice of Motion. Details of any financial and resource implications will be reported at a subsequent meeting.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>This motion, if agreed, may have potential equality, good relations and rural needs implications and should be subject to our normal screening process as appropriate.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Documents Attached</p>
	<p>None</p>