

# Joint Procurement Strategy

West Midlands Police and  
West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner  
2022 - 2025



west midlands  
police and crime  
commissioner

West Midlands  
**POLICE**



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# Joint Procurement Strategy

## About Us

West Midlands Police (WMP) is the second largest police force in the country. It covers an area of 384 square miles and serves a population in the region of 3 million (over 1 million households). Preventing crime, protecting the public and helping those in need is our vision. Our procurement strategies, policies and procedures are designed to deliver on that focus.

The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner is the local governing body for policing in the West Midlands. The Commissioner has an over-arching duty to secure an effective and efficient police force.

The Chief Constable has overall responsibility for the direction and control of West Midlands Police Force. The Chief Constable is responsible for ensuring the Force's business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively.

This procurement strategy builds on the themes of both the previous strategy and requirements set out in the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan 2021-25 and WMP's three-year strategy 'This Work Matters', with a stronger emphasis on the green agenda and collaboration.

## Our Procurement Vision

Our vision for procurement is: To deliver a high quality and cost-effective service which assists in the performance of the Force, whilst delivering value for the people of the West Midlands and that this assists in the economic development in the region.

The Police and Crime Plan 2021- 25 sets out our aspirations to make West Midlands Police a greener and more environmentally sustainable force. As we continue to deliver our capital and revenue programme we will rethink how we procure supplies and services today without the expense of tomorrow. We will work with BlueLight Commercial on their recently launched Sustainability Decarbonisation Programme.

We will ensure social value is obtained when we buy goods and services. This will include, where appropriate, buying locally to support the local economy, supporting local jobs, and ensuring service suppliers are Real Living Wage Employers. Our social value added will be reported publicly. We will work with our supply chain to understand our risk exposure to Modern Slavery and put measures in place to mitigate against this.

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## Our Key Aims

- To ensure that value for money is obtained for all commercial activity.
- To consider national priorities in local procurement activities around creating new businesses, new jobs and new skills.
- To put in place competitive contracts, where we can drive efficiency and innovation.
- Working in an ethical way with others to ensure environmental, ethical and sustainable procurement.
- Continuous improvement is one of the key pillars of the Force strategy, we will look to drive efficiencies and improved performance through working with the supply chain.

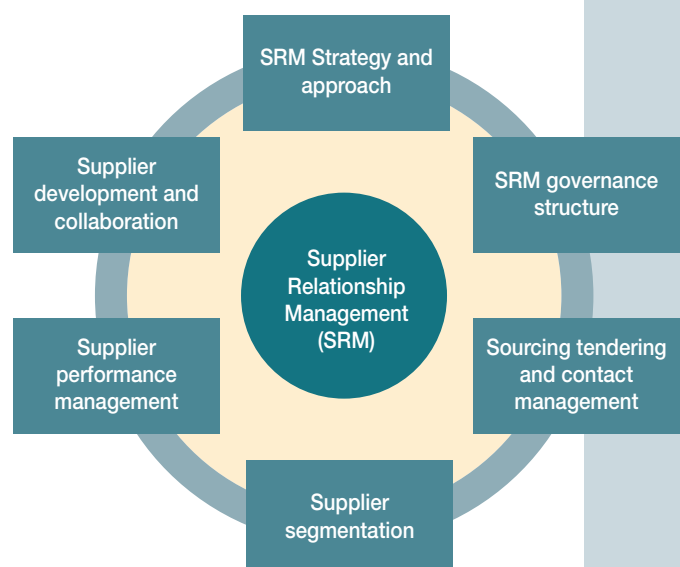
## Our Procurement Approach

### Core procurement Strategies

- In line with financial thresholds set out in the Amendment to the Public Contract Regulations 2021, we will run individual procurements through the Find a Tender platform and process (formerly OJEU). Even though the UK is no longer part of the EU the public procurement regime remains largely unchanged. Further amendments to the procurement regulations to reflect the UK's new status outside the EU are anticipated around 2023.
- WMP also procure via various national framework agreements and other collaborative procurement processes in line with the approved Standing Orders.

### Contract Management

- In 2021 we began to roll out an enhanced and improved supplier relationship management (SRM) framework. This SRM approach provides a clear framework with an internally and externally aligned governance structure, to manage relationships at all levels and within different functions. It will reduce the level of complexity and increase transparency on both sides. The framework is set around a number of processes, focusing on supplier segmentation, governance, performance management and development.
- We will continue to roll out and embed this approach going forward as well as use the data we collect to inform future decisions.



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## **Working with BlueLight Commercial**

- BlueLight Commercial was established in 2020 by the Home Office, to work in collaboration with blue light organisations and local/national suppliers, to help transform their commercial services. We will work with BlueLight Commercial on our procurement pipeline to identify collaborative opportunities.

## **Modern Slavery**

- The PCC and WMP will work in partnership with our suppliers to ensure that appropriate due diligence is in place to comply with the requirements of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

## **Skills and Capability for Procurement**

- We will consider capability and capacity within the procurement team, with regard to the commercial skills to deliver value for money and new skill sets required to national requirements, including the Green Agenda.

## **Monitoring & Reporting**

- We will set specific measures to monitor and report progress against the aims of this strategy each year.

## **Corporate Social Responsibility**

In line with the national priorities set out in the National Procurement Policy Statement June 2021. We will

- Encourage local businesses to bid for police contracts and wherever possible support local employment and training.
- As far as possible ensure that the Real Living Wage applies to all service contract suppliers whose staff are wholly employed in delivering services to the Commissioner and Force.
- Provided the procurement is lawful and non-discriminatory, ensure we buy local when local knowledge and expertise is important for the particular service.
- Seek to ensure that contractors have procedures and policies in place to ensure any requirement around the Modern Slavery Act 2015 are fully met.
- Assess social value when evaluating contracts to ensure social value is a priority where necessary.
- Working with our suppliers to tackle climate change and reduce waste.
- Improve supplier diversity, innovation and resilience.

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## **Carbon Net Zero and reducing our Environmental impact**

We are working to reduce our carbon footprint and the impact on the environment. We will be working closely with our supply chain partners to introduce innovative use of materials and improved ways of operating. The procurement team will work with our Environment & Sustainability lead to support the Commissioner's and the Force's decarbonisation ambitions.

## **How we communicate**

### **BlueLight Procurement Database**

- The BlueLight Procurement Database (BLPD) is an online information hub aimed at improving visibility and access to contract and procurement information for buyers within the Emergency Services in the United Kingdom.

### **Contracts finder and Find A Tender service (FTS)**

- As a public sector organisation we operate procurement activities in line with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (PCR 2015). To meet these regulations and transparency requirements we ensure our procurement opportunities and contract awards above certain thresholds are published on Contracts Finder and Find A Tender service. The above approaches allow our supply chain visibility of our planned, current and awarded contract activity.

**Simon Foster**  
West Midlands Police and  
Crime Commissioner

**David Thompson**  
Chief Constable,  
West Midlands Police

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