

## **Outline of model for inclusion of relevant community benefits in procurements.**

In many procurements the delivery of specifically identified community benefits will be sought as a core part of contract delivery. Where a procuring authority, as part of implementing its policy commitments, is seeking to maximize the social impact of its expenditure through the delivery of relevant community benefits, a broader approach may on occasions be appropriate. One such approach is proposed below. Its use must be considered on a case-by-case basis

This model is drawn from initial work undertaken by Leeds City Council Procurement Unit for the Keeping House Program. It has been tested through 3 workshops organized jointly by NECE and Newcastle University Business School, as part of the 'Delivering public services in the mixed economy of welfare: putting research into practice' project funded by an ESRC impact grant.

For further details of the project see [www.socialwelfareservicedelivery.org.uk](http://www.socialwelfareservicedelivery.org.uk)

### **Key features of the model.**

- 1) Examples of the sorts of community benefits that the delivery agency may be able to bring as part of the contract delivery are included in the specification document. These are identified through engagement with ultimate beneficiaries early in the commissioning cycle.
- 2) As part of the tender evaluation criteria, a percentage of the quality aspect is allocated to community benefits.
- 3) Tenderers are invited, as part of the method statement or equivalent, to express all community benefits, identifying the relevance of these benefits to the subject matter of the procurement and suggesting methods for evidencing their delivery.

The following wording may be used;

*“Please outline all community benefits your organisation can offer the Council when providing this contract. Contractors should be aware that only those community benefits that relate to the subject matter of the contract itself can be taken into account in the evaluation of any tender. Although the judgement of relevance is a matter for [procuring agency], an innovative approach towards how those benefits relate to the subject matter of the contract is encouraged.”*

- 4) At the tender evaluation stage, the procuring agency or evaluation panel ensure that the proposed benefits are relevant to the subject matter of the contract and within the powers and policies of the agency. They are then assessed against the evaluation matrix.

5) As part of the pre contract clarification and mobilization period (ie between the awarding of the contract and the contract starting), the procuring authority and delivery agency agrees the contract management arrangements. As part of this the proposed monitoring and evaluation framework to verify the delivery of the relevant community benefits is reviewed and if necessary refined.