

Appendix A

The Council's Procurement Principles

- a) We will use procurement to deliver economic, effective and efficient services and we have a commitment to improve the quality of services at a reasonable cost.
- b) We will bear in mind that Best Value may not always mean the cheapest option being chosen. Quality products or services which cost more may sustain themselves in the longer term and may be the better option where best value is concerned
- c) We will fully explore the benefits of partnership working or joint commissioning in procuring goods and services wherever possible
- d) We will ensure that continuous improvements and improved customer service is part of the framework for any procurement exercise
- e) We will reduce the administrative burden of procurement and use e-procurement wherever possible
- f) We will achieve efficiencies and savings by making greater use of standard products and economies of scale
- g) We will encourage open and fair competition
- h) We will take environmental concerns and whole life costs into account in purchasing decisions
- i) We will buy locally to support village communities where it represents value for money