1. SUMMARY
1.1 The Sustainable Procurement Policy 2015-19 (SPP) is a refresh of the 2011-15 policy.
1.2 It commits the Council to considering economic, social and environmental responsibility when procuring the goods, works and services we need, whilst still achieving value for money.
1.3 The SPP reviews our achievements in this area so far, renews our commitments going forward, and highlights some of the key ways we will address each element of sustainable procurement.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS
2.1 Cabinet is recommended to:
2.1.1 Approve the refreshed Sustainable Procurement Policy for implementation.

3. PROPOSALS
3.1 The refreshed policy will renew the Council’s commitment to economic, social and environmental responsibility through the way it procures goods, services and works.
3.2 Enfield and Waltham Forest Councils operate a shared Corporate Procurement function. This policy aligns with both boroughs key priorities and the documents have been developed in partnership with staff members from both councils.
3.3 Achievements since the last SPP include establishing a Strategic Procurement Board (SPB) which scrutinises sustainability impacts of proposed procurements, and developing the Community Benefits Toolkit, which explains to staff how to deliver socio-economic benefits through procurement. Other achievements include:

(a) recognition for the ethical sourcing of food products and is a Fairtrade Borough.
(b) commitment to the Government Buying Standards, which provide minimum environmental criteria for a wide range of commodities, for example FSC certified timber, lower emissions vehicles and efficient water-using products
(c) Mandating quotes from local suppliers which has resulted in 30% of our spend being local.

3.4 The policy highlights some of the ways we will continue to build maturity in sustainable procurement.

3.5 An Action Plan is being developed in collaboration with teams across the council to set out further detail of how we will continue to improve our internal corporate processes so that they support social, economic and environmental sustainability to the utmost possible.

3.6 The key aims of the policy are:

3.6.1 To minimise any negative environmental impacts of goods and services purchased, right across their life cycle from raw material extraction to end of life. This section includes commitments to sustainable food, less polluting construction methods, and use of environmentally friendly materials.

3.6.2 To encourage suppliers to add economic value to the Waltham Forest community in terms of employment, training and supply chain. We want to ensure that local businesses, particularly SMEs, can benefit from our procurement processes.

3.6.3 To address the social impacts of our purchases, by managing and monitoring supply chains to ensure ethical standards, creating additional training opportunities, and supporting social enterprises and the voluntary sector.

3.6.4 Value for money is at the heart of the sustainable procurement agenda. It recognises that value does not just mean low cost, but also social, economic and environmental value.

4. OPTIONS & ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

4.1 Not producing a sustainable procurement policy. This would be unusual for a public organisation and might be viewed as bad practice.

4.2 Having a Waltham Forest-only policy. This may prevent some of the initiatives proposed in the policy being delivered as the procurement function which will lead the implementation is shared across both boroughs.
5. **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY PRIORITIES (AND OTHER NATIONAL OR LOCAL POLICIES OR STRATEGIES)**

5.1 This policy fully supports the sustainable community strategy. It promotes economic, social and environmental ethics in the procurement process, which will benefit the local area now and in the future.

5.2 It will also complement:

5.2.1 “Keep your neighbourhood clean and safe”, by preferring construction methods that reduce air pollution in our contracts.

5.2.2 “Help build a strong local economy and thriving town centres” by creating training and work opportunities through our contracts.

5.3 The policy links in with national and international guidance, policy and legislation. For example, the Social Value Act, DEFRA’s Sustainable Procurement National Action Plan, and the European Commission’s Green Public Procurement agenda.

5.4 We want to minimise any negative environmental impacts of goods, works and services purchased, right across their life cycle from raw material extraction to end of life.

5.5 Under this new policy we will seek to further improve the economic, social and environmental impacts from our contracts through the use of apprentices, providing opportunities for long term unemployed people, reducing carbon emissions, and helping small to medium enterprises access more of our contracts.

6. **CONSULTATION**

6.1 The policy was developed in collaboration with teams across Waltham Forest and Enfield, led by Corporate Procurement, and with input from Councillors and senior managers.

6.2 In developing the policy the procurement team have spoken with local Small to Medium Enterprises and taken on board feedback from supplier workshops.

7. **IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 **Finance, Value for Money and Risk**

7.1.1 The Council’s drive for value for money is linked to the Government’s efficiency agenda and the Council’s Medium Term Financial Strategy. These initiatives call for on-going cashable savings to be achieved in part through better procurement leading to overall cost reductions.

7.1.2 The Procurement Policy is set up to secure value for money and to ensure the fair distribution of contracts to potential suppliers. It also ensures the council procures goods and services in the most competitive and equitable way possible. The thresholds of the contract value determine the procurement process and the choices that may be made.
7.1.3 The Policy encourages suppliers to add value to the Waltham Forest community in terms of employment, training and supply chain. Local businesses, particularly SMEs, benefit from our procurement processes in being able to supply LBWF and LBE where it is feasible for them to do so.

7.2 Legal

7.2.1 The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 requires public authorities to consider the economic, social and environmental well-being of their area when undertaking public procurements. The Act sets out a number of requirements that public authorities must comply with before starting the procurement process including considering:
- how what is being procured might improve economic, social and environmental wellbeing of its area;
- how the improvement might be secured and
- whether to have a consultation on the potential improvement themselves or how they be secured.

7.2.2 The Council has the power under Section 1 (1) of the Localism Act 2011 to do anything that individuals generally may do. Creating stronger and more sustainable communities are key priorities for the Council. Approval and publication of the Sustainable Procurement Policy 2015-19 and Action Plan are in accordance with this power.

7.3 Equalities and Diversity

7.3.1 An EA Screening was completed. The main conclusion is that there will be no negative impacts on equalities. It is believed that this policy will have a positive impact where it relates to social and economic sustainability. For example, it advocates asking suppliers to train and hire apprentices and economically disadvantaged groups.

7.4 Sustainability (including climate change, health, crime and disorder)

7.4.1 The policy promotes sustainable outcomes.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION (as defined by Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985)

The Sustainable Procurement Policy 2011-15