

# Social Value Policy 2025-2027



west midlands  
police and crime  
commissioner



West Midlands  
**POLICE**

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that social value principles are effectively applied, enabling West Midlands Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner to maximise positive economic, environmental, and social outcomes for the West Midlands, from the public contracts which we commission and procure.

This policy aims to provide a set of principles that will allow Social Value considerations to be embedded into our contracting activity. We aim to commission and procure goods and services which support and enhance the performance of the Force and OPCC, delivering value for the people of the West Midlands whilst promoting economic development and social growth in the region.

Social value is defined as:

***‘The benefit to the community from a commissioning or procurement process over and above the direct purchasing of goods, services, and outcomes’***

## WHAT IS SOCIAL VALUE?

The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012, which took effect 31 January 2013, mandates public bodies to have a legal obligation to consider the social good in contracts that are subject to the Public Contracts Regulation 2015. The aim of the Act is not to alter the commissioning and procurement processes, but to ensure that, as part of these processes, organisations consider the wider impact of the services delivered.

Social value measures the benefit organisations create for their local communities and wider UK society as a result of how they operate. This policy provides an opportunity to integrate economic, environmental, and social sustainability into procurement processes, by developing an approach that builds positive relationships with suppliers to achieve greater social value.

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY

The policy aims to create a link between the strategic priorities of the West Midlands Police and OPCC, in order to ensure that our spending complements those priorities and helps deliver key outcomes.

We will realise Social Value by:

- Having regard to the Social Value Policy in all procurement activity.
- Applying the Social Value Policy in such a way that enables the force to maximise value for money, alongside economic, social, and environmental benefits.
- As a minimum, consider assigning 10% of the overall evaluation to Social Value for any procurement decisions over £100,000 and or where applicable.
- Capturing commitments on the Social Value Portal and ensuring they are tracked, delivered, validated, and reported back throughout the core contract delivery period.

## SOCIAL VALUE IN PROCUREMENT

In addition to fulfilling the objectives of this policy, procurement decisions must comply with the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012, which requires consideration of Social Value when procuring Goods and Services.

As of 24 February 2025, public procurement in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland is now governed by the Procurement Act 2023, bringing significant changes for both contracting authorities and suppliers including awarding contracts based on the “Most Advantageous Tender” (MAT) and stepping up transparency and reporting.

WMP and OPCC will consider a 10% evaluation weighting for Social Value for contracts exceeding £100,000, or where there is an opportunity to develop, consider and drive social value.

WMP and OPCC have appointed the Social Value Portal (SVP) to oversee the measurement, evaluation, management, and reporting of their suppliers’ contributions, and to demonstrate their positive impact to society in addition to the delivery of their core goods or services.

Social value commitments (including Key Performance Indicators) will be recorded in Contract Award reports submitted for approval.

## ALIGNING POLICE AND CRIME PRIORITIES WITH SOCIAL VALUE

Greater social value can be achieved if we and our suppliers focus efforts on a priority set of measures that include and benefit people who are more likely than most to be at a disadvantage and at risk of criminal behaviour.

For instance, young people who are not engaged in education, employment or training face greater challenges in life compared to those who have transitioned into these pathways.

We have therefore established a set of social value evaluation measures for suppliers to contribute to as part of their tender response (these are not in any priority order).

- **Local people employed and retained:**  
Creating local employment and training opportunities, particularly for the most disadvantaged groups and communities.
- **Local Supply Chain Spending:**  
Spend through local companies in the supply chain promoting the local economy so that small and medium-sized businesses and voluntary sector bodies can grow.
- **Apprentice Opportunities:**  
Employment of new apprentices.
- **Living Wage Compliance:**  
Ensuring that suppliers adhere to paying the real living wage, where applicable.
- **Support for local community projects through donations and volunteering.**
- **Having regard to avoiding Modern Slavery in our supply chain.**
- **Local environment and sustainability processes:**  
Including contribution to CO<sub>2</sub> reduction.

Successful implementation of the policy will be measured against the themes, outcomes, and measures, and will be reported annually.

## CONSIDERATION IS ALSO APPLIED BY THE OPCC TO THE FOLLOWING:

Prison leavers find it much harder to gain employment than those with no criminal record. New employment opportunities for this group reduces the risk of long-term unemployment, which in turn can lead to criminal activity. Ensuring employment opportunities for this group are provided within the contracts which we let therefore offers opportunities to reduce crime as well as add value to the West Midlands economy.

It is important that we seek to focus the social value which disrupts the links between poverty, crime, and reoffending.

Areas of consideration include:

- Contribution to Design Out Crime principles.
- Contribution to Local Authority local plan targets for employment and economic growth.
- Focusing on relevant social value delivery which contributes to breaking the cycle of poverty, crime, prison, and reoffending.

This is captured through the closure of marketing campaigns and following the receipt of best and final offers, bidders are issued a questionnaire which encompasses the above. These are then considered alongside the offers when compiling the recommendation papers.



## SOCIAL VALUE WILL BE MEASURED AGAINST A SET OF TOMS (THEMES, OUTCOMES & MEASURES)

The social value framework has created a structured approach for measuring and reporting so that the application of social value is standardised across West Midlands Police and OPCC. The framework is designed so that suppliers can take a bespoke approach to each contract to ensure that the social value element of the tender is appropriate, relevant, and achievable. Metrics are built using 'proxy' values, informed by data from respected sources like the Office for National Statistics. It means we can quantify how much value we are adding to communities through the contracts we award.

### Measuring Social Value: The TOM System™



The measurement framework used by West Midlands Police is aligned with the National Social Value measurement framework – TOM System™.

#### The framework that sets the standard

The TOM System™ has been developed by the National Social Value Taskforce, a cross-sector organisation that combines both public and private sector organisations. It is the result of extensive consultation across local authorities and public-sector organisations, including the Office of Civil Society and Crown Commercial Services.

#### Themes, Outcomes and Measures

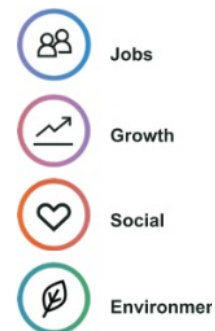
The TOM System™ is built around five key themes, supported by several outcomes and specific measures. The themes centre around promoting jobs and skills, supporting regional growth, empowering communities, protecting the environment, and promoting social innovation.

#### Turning activity into £SV

Financial proxy values have been attributed to Measures within the framework, allowing organisations to report their overall contribution to society in financial and nonfinancial terms. By reflecting the real needs of communities, the TOM System™ enables a positive contribution towards economic, social and environmental wellbeing.

#### TOM mapping

A mapping exercise was conducted to align the TOM System™ to the West Midlands Police's priorities. As a result, SVP developed a bespoke set of measures. This is now the default set used by West Midlands Police and is based on the 2022 TOM methodology and proxy values.



### The TOM System™: West Midlands Police



#### Themes:

#### Outcomes:



#### Jobs

#### Promote Local Skills & Employment

More local people in employment  
Improved employability of young people  
More opportunities for disadvantaged people  
Improved skills for local people



#### Growth

#### Support Growth of Responsible Regional Business

Improved Staff Wellbeing and mental health  
More opportunities for SMEs and VCSEs, Local companies  
A workforce and culture that reflect the diversity of the local community  
Social Value embedded in the supply chain



#### Social

#### Healthier, Safer and more Resilient Communities

Creating a healthier community  
Vulnerable people are helped to live independently  
More working with the community



#### Environment

#### Decarbonising and Safeguarding Our World

Effective stewardship of the environment

## MONITORING SOCIAL VALUE

All suppliers who have committed to the delivery of social value outcomes must submit a quarterly report evidencing the progress made against these outcomes via the Social Value Portal. The delivery of social value commitments will be monitored and incorporated into contract management review processes undertaken by the WMP and OPCC teams.

## GOVERNANCE

In order to deliver against the commitments in the policy, the WMP Assistant Director of Finance and OPCC Chief Finance Officer will jointly own this policy, supported by the WMP Supplier Relationship Manager who will present an annual Social Value update report into the Finance Governance Board evidencing commitments, highlights, themes, outcomes and measures.

The Supplier Relationship Manager will also report committed, delivered, and validated Social Value data to the WMP Quarterly Performance Review Board. (QPRB) and OPCC Quarterly Resourcing Board (QRB).

This policy will be further developed and reviewed on an annual basis to address any local changes to priorities and procurement legislation.

## CONCLUSION

This policy demonstrates our commitment to ensure that both now and, in the future, our approach to Social Value forms part of our core procurement processes is monitored and reported against.