

Appendix 1 – Shared Service Case Study: Procurement Services

In 2014, the Council entered a shared service arrangement with Denbighshire County Council (“DCC”) for the delivery of procurement advice. DCC continues to be the lead authority and employs the specialist team (the Joint Procurement Unit) who deliver the service on behalf of both Councils.

As part of the service level agreement, the joint procurement service produces a joint annual report on its regulated procurement activities.

The Joint Procurement Unit continues to co-ordinate and support commissioning and procurement activities across the Council. It has a key role in:

- Promoting awareness and the need for compliance with legislation and the Council’s own contract procedure rules and financial regulations
- Promoting awareness of the need to collaborate on procurement and commissioning across the two Councils
- Providing assurance to Elected Members and management that the objectives in the Procurement Strategy are being met
- Ensuring that the risks associated with commissioning and procurement activities are being identified and met
- Ensuring that opportunities to drive through greater efficiencies and improvements are identified and implemented
- Incorporating social value within our procurements, including making a positive commitment to addressing climate change and
- Supporting the local economy.

The driving force that led to this change were the difficulties in recruiting and retaining employees with the appropriate skills and professional qualifications and the need to create greater service resilience. These issues have been resolved by pooling human resources and jointly funding (now on a 50/50 basis) a shared procurement service with a neighbouring local authority.