Social Value Policy

Summary
Amey’s position as a vital and varied service provider in almost every county in the UK means we already have a big impact on the communities we serve. We want to work effectively with communities, through designing services personal to them using local partners to meet their individual needs and priorities. The purpose of this policy is to clearly set out how Amey will ensure social value is embedded throughout its operations.

Defining Social Value
Our aim is to leave a positive and lasting impact in the local communities in which we operate. We define Social Value as ‘the benefits that come about through public service contracts that improve the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of people and communities.

Policy Context
The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 requires all public bodies in England and Wales to consider how the services they commission and procure might improve the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the area for which they are responsible.

The Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 places a sustainable procurement obligation on public sector bodies and lays the foundations for the systematic delivery and reporting of social value in the Scottish public sector.

The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 places an obligation on public bodies to carry out sustainable development.

Principles

Commitment:
• develop a social value strategy forming an integral part of our strategy, business planning and decision making
• engage our employees to understand our social value policy and priorities, and how these are relevant to their day to day work
• embed social value into procurement activity

Transparency:
• monitor and measure social value as part of our performance management
• publicly report on our social value performance
• seek external verification and undertake stakeholder engagement
• undertake annual Amey Board review and twice yearly Amey Executive Committee review

Action:
• establish an annual action plan – detailing the specific actions to be achieved that year
• identify and nominate local social value leads
• create and maintain positive industry and charitable partnerships to deliver our objectives
Themes

We will use the following themes, to engage and set our social value objectives and targets:

People and workplaces, employment and skills:
- We will create local employment and training opportunities to contribute to thriving local economies
- We will engage with our employees and support their personal and professional development
- We will ensure individuals’ career prospects and progression are independent of their personal characteristics, background and circumstances, supporting inclusive workplaces and diverse workforces
- We commit to ensuring the health and safety of those that work for and on behalf of Amey

Supporting the local economy and responsible growth:
- We will procure goods and services locally where possible
- We will provide opportunities for micro, small, medium-sized enterprises and social enterprises, and support their growth
- We will target the use of social enterprises in our supply chain
- We will follow fair payment practices when dealing with our supply chain including prompt payment
- We will promote sustainable and ethical procurement and consider social value as part of our procurement process

Protecting and enhancing our environment:
- We will reduce carbon footprint and measure our emissions
- We will value our natural use resources to reduce our waste, adopting the reduce, reuse, recycle philosophy
- We will support communities to reduce waste, limit their energy consumption, adapt to climate change and enhance the natural environment

Caring for our communities:
- We will be a caring neighbour and engage surrounding communities ahead of works to seek to avoid unreasonable nuisance or distress
- We will support issues of local importance and encourage active citizenship engagement
- We will participate in community volunteering
- We will work with schools, colleges and community partners on local projects to raise awareness of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) careers
- We will work and partner with local charities to deliver key outcomes

Governance and Reporting

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for this Policy, who with the Amey Executive Committee will publish a Social Value strategy, with associate objectives and targets.
The Executive Committee is responsible for ensuring this Policy is implemented and that systems and processes are developed and monitored. They will ensure that local social value leads are identified. All managers are responsible for ensuring that all employees are aware of their responsibilities under the policy and that it is fully implemented.

The Executive Committee will review performance against the Social Value strategy twice per year. The Amey Board with review performance against our Social Value strategy once per year.

The Head of Social Impact is responsible for updating, promoting this Policy.

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