



A Social Value Charter for Shropshire

The Social Value Charter for Shropshire sets out how public sector commissioners, service providers, voluntary, community & social enterprise organisations and businesses will aim to improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of Shropshire.

The Social Value Charter aims to clearly communicate the Social Value priorities for Shropshire and to create a framework within which commissioners, providers and other stakeholders will operate.

These principles have been developed by the Shropshire Social Value Group which consists of representatives from the Local Authority, Health, Police & Crime Commissioner's Office, Housing and the Voluntary & Community Sector.

The Charter is aligned to the Shropshire Council Social Value Commissioning & Procurement Framework, the Cogs Shropshire Procurement Charter and other related frameworks.

Charter signatories will commit to the Charter principles and must demonstrate either how they are currently delivering Social Value in accordance with these principles or how they plan to achieve compliance in accordance with a timetabled plan.

It is our long-term aspiration that future commissioning and contracting decisions made by signatory organisations will take full account of the principles of this Charter by being formally incorporated into new contracts and procurement policies.

The Social Value Charter Mark will be awarded to organisations who have been awarded contracts for goods, works and services by Shropshire public sector commissioners and who have demonstrated, through contract monitoring, that they are delivering good Social Value.

Commissioners will:

- Embed Social Value in their commissioning strategies and plans
- Incorporate appropriate and proportionate Social Value requirements which reflect this Charter in their procurement, contracts and grants documentation
- Capture data and intelligence which demonstrates the Social Value generated through their commissioning and procurement activity

Contracted Providers will:

- Operate in a way which maximises the Social Value generated through their activities
- Provide clear evidence and data to commissioners which demonstrate the Social Value they generate through their contracted activities

Other Charter Signatories will:

- Operate in a way which maximises the Social Value generated through their activities

By signing up to this Charter signatories commit to the following principles, either by fully adopting the Charter at the time of signature or alternatively making a commitment to full adoption within a clear timetable.

The Charter principles are as follows:

1. Supporting the Shropshire economy:
 - a. Supporting / purchasing from the local supply chain where possible
 - b. Supporting or creating the conditions for growth in the Shropshire economy
 - c. Developing education, skills and training opportunities within the Shropshire economy
 - d. Employment opportunities for local people
 - e. Good conditions of employment and fair wage rates and structures
2. Promoting wellbeing in Shropshire:
 - a. Keeping people connected and maximising use of community infrastructure
 - b. Initiatives to address social and rural isolation
 - c. Supporting people and communities to be self-reliant, resilient, safe and mutually supportive
 - d. Addressing the social, economic and environmental factors which contribute to poverty and inequality (prevention)
 - e. Residents are involved in the design and delivery of integrated and accessible quality services
3. A great place to live:
 - a. Support or contribution to community initiatives
 - b. People are able to contribute through volunteering opportunities
 - c. People have a good, decent and appropriate place to live
 - d. People are proud to live in Shropshire and have a stake in their communities
 - e. A green and sustainable county

Implementation of the Charter

The Charter will be implemented in stages linked to the 3 themes above. Stage 1 will concentrate on the principle 'Supporting the Shropshire Economy' with the Charter Mark being awarded to those organisations which demonstrate that they are delivering good economic value. Depending on the success of Stage 1 implementation, principles 2 and 3 will be implemented in succession over the course of the following 1-2 years.