

Contract for Change

Steering Committee Meeting 4 Minutes and Actions

Date: Thursday 9th Feb 2023 (rescheduled from Dec 2022)

Time: 10.00-11.30

Agenda:

Item	Who	Time
1. Welcome, apologies	DS	10.00
2. Approval of minutes, and update on actions	DS / CM	10.05
3. Position and Communications – a. Context discussion – any changes since last meeting? b. Procurement Bill update c. Events update i. Members Exchange ii. Westminster Business Forum Next steps for public procurement iii. WCC Symposium iv. Contract for Change conference – June 2023	DS / all	10.10
4. Update on programme a. Number of EOIs b. Steering Committee update c. Strategic Partner update d. Website, resources and set up update	CM	10.35

5. Working Group update	All WG leads	
6. Next Steps and AOB	DS	11.20
7. End		11.30

Documents for this meeting:

1. Meeting slides
2. Working Groups volunteers list

Updates pages on website:

[Contract for Change Programme](#)

[Working Groups - \(contractforchange.org\)](#)

[Strategic Partners | Contract for Change](#)

1. Welcome, apologies

Introductions: Kate Graefe, co-lead from Group 4 joined Steering Committee

Apologies – Melissa Bell, Alison Chessell, Isabelle Parasram, Danielle Goodrick, Dan Ebanks, Matthew McKew, Sarah Ottaway, Lindsay Rosul, Jo Parkes Newton, Matthew McKew

Attended – Catherine Manning, David Shields, Beth Pilgrim, Luke Richardson, , Lisa Beers, Tim Cummins, Kate Graefe, Josh Pritchard

2. Approval of minutes, and update on actions

Minutes approved

Key actions to progress from last meeting:

- ACTION: C4C needs to communicate with key Government contacts. David to draft update to LGA and Cabinet Office on behalf of C4C. One set of comms to do with training, and one to do with policy. Steering Committee to check who to contact for each, and inform Catherine about any additions / differences in list:

List of people to contact:

- Lindsay McGuire , Cabinet Office,
- Ed Green, Cabinet Office
- Lucy Sidney, Cabinet Office
- Andy Williams , ???
- Angela Raynor and Mick Whitley, Labour
- Jeremy Quinn – Minister for the Cabinet Office

3. Position and Communications –

a. Context discussion – any changes since last meeting?

Labour giving higher profile to procurement

Increasing wider regulations and requirements on non-financial reporting, sustainability accounting etc e.g CSRD implementation , IFRS SASB, IPSAB, EFRAG – can we increase importance of social value and need for organisations to respond linked to these requirements?

b. Procurement Bill update

Steering Committee discussed overall current context:

- More changes going through at the moment. Env and Soc changes agreed in lords pre-Xmas, but amends put in by the lords have been stopped in commons.
- Feedback to Steering Committee member from SEUK contact is that general narrative is that SV Act is strong enough. Reluctance to put anything stronger in. MPs have had stories that SMEs have lost work due to complexity of SV.
- Some connections with shadow cabinet through some Steering Committee members, e.g. CBO speak with Labour. Broad agreement that SV needs to be higher up the agenda. However, SV isn't likely going to be part of the bill.
- There is still opportunity to influence so connecting with key Government people is really important. The NPS could still get social value added
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Ideas for Contract for Change programme focus:

- Can the social value community collate positives to counteract these negative examples? This comes under the remit of our C4C Working Group 1.
- How much influence can the Contract for Change programme have in this process? Need to consider focus considering where we are in the Procurement Bill process. Lindsay Maguire updated in recent Cabinet Office updates that there will be a whole raft of secondary legislation, post April, probably May / June time.
- Steering Committee need to consider strategy and tactics for our role in influencing this secondary legislation in a meaningful way.
- Plan to contact the right people across gov, e.g Lucy Sidney, Lindsay, Ed Green, is really important for the influence of the programme

- Communications – need some communication on our position on Procurement Bill, importance of social value, and the opportunity for supporting SMEs WITH social value, and climate – local supply, diversity, more innovation through diversity.

ACTION: CM to draft a SHORT piece on procurement bill changes making programme case of supporting SMEs WITH social value, and climate – local supply, diversity, more innovation through diversity. Working with Kate Graefe and Working Group 4 on this. Needs to come out ASAP

c. **Events update**

- i. Members Exchange – Contract for Change session with case studies and examples. Case studies will be added to website
- ii. Westminster Business Forum Next steps for public procurement – Beth Pilgrim, Catherine Manning and Josh Pritchard spoke at this event
- iii. WCC Symposium - academic symposium, over 900 people. Outreach more corporate sector focused. Global. People want examples. Series of roundtables – first hosted by MoJ with 15 large corporates, roundtables across Europe and US, looking at to what extent are corporates looking to embed SV

Upcoming events:

- Kate speaking at ??? event in March
- May 17th – world sustainable contracting day – could we have C4C representation?
- Dec 4 and 5 - ???
- Supply Change, Social Procurement Festival – March 29th CM speaking.
<https://www.supplychange.co.uk/social-procurement-festival-23>

iv. Contract for Change conference – June 2023 – SVUK have mapped in for a Contract for Change event in the summer. CM will reach out to Steering Committee and others who expressed interest in supporting an event to engage in delivering this. Needs to be run in collaboration with Working Group 1 focused on networking, peer learning and practice sharing

ACTION: CM to reach out to Steering Committee and other people who have expressed interest in volunteering for an event to engage in the development process.

4. Update on programme

As per meeting slide deck

5. Working Group update

Between 13-17 people volunteered for each group

- **Group 1** – Co-leads: Alison Chessell, Chelmsford Council, Michelle York, Nuneaton Signs: co-leads have been in contact and are planning on reaching out to group. Alison not able to attend Steering Committee meeting, so update needed on group progress
- **Group 2** – Danielle to step down due to time pressures. Need new Co-lead from Steering Committee. Lisa Beers volunteered to co-lead the group. CM to put Lisa in touch with Michele McCartan to take the group forward
- **Group 3:** Co-Leads - Luke Richardson, PPP, Karen Nolan, Assura Plc - 18 people. Karen and Luke have met. Making contact next week. 3 way split between different sectors. Back end of next week will be able to outline activity then
- **Group 4:** Co-leads: Sarah Ottaway, SUEZ, Kate Graefe, Independent - have met as a working group. 13 Dec last year. Prioritization of work plan. Influencing needs to not be out of line with what is coming out of other groups. Had a conversation about scope. Are we talking about same understanding of social value. Aim for reengagement with group now that Steering Committee have met.

Next steps:

- Need groups to all meet, to discuss ideas on what each group should focus on, and to discuss key issues each group thinks we are facing around their particular group focus.
- All Groups then need to feed this back to the Steering Committee. Programme Sponsor, Strategic Partners and SVUK (CM) will then review and align the group feedback and come back with an overarching plan for the groups to focus on. This will likely be between 4-5 key areas.

Some key issues/areas already identified:

- Differing means of defining SV
- Different measurement and reporting
- Relationship focus rather than tickbox y/n
- Engagement with SMEs

ACTION: CM to put Lisa Beers in touch with Michele McCartan to pick up on Group 2 work

ACTION: all groups need to have first meeting – let CM know

ACTION: all groups to feed back initial thoughts – send into CM and drop in shared folder

ACTION: David and Catherine review ideas and set up meeting to feed back to all volunteers

6. Next Steps and AOB

AOB: shared drive for WCC – lots of case studies etc. Good practice guide of 8 phases of contracting process.

ACTION: CM to set up meeting with Tim Cummins to discuss how best to share between WCC and the C4C programme.

ACTIONS

	Actions from Steering Committee Meeting	Who	When	Status
1	ACTION: C4C needs to communicate with key Government contacts. David to draft update to LGA and Cabinet Office on behalf of C4C. One set of comms to do with training, and one to do with policy. Steering Committee to check who to contact for each, and inform Catherine about any additions / differences in list	CM, DS,	24 Feb	In progress
2	ACTION: CM to draft a SHORT piece on procurement bill changes making programme case of supporting SMEs WITH social value, and climate – local supply, diversity, more innovation through diversity. Working with Kate Graefe and Working Group 4 on this. Needs to come out ASAP	CM, KG	17 Feb	In progress
3	ACTION: CM to reach out to Steering Committee and other people who have expressed interest in volunteering for an event to engage in the development process.	CM	24 Feb	Not started
4	ACTION: CM to put Lisa Beers in touch with Michele McCartan to pick up on Group 2 work	CM	13 Feb	Not started
5	ACTION: all groups need to have first meeting – let CM know	CM	3 March	Not started
6	ACTION: all groups to feed back initial thoughts – send into CM and drop in shared folder	All	17 March	In progress
7	ACTION: David and Catherine review ideas and set up meeting to feed back to all volunteers	CM	31 March	Not started