

A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES



JOANNE BANNISTER
SOCIAL VALUE ENGINE PROGRAMME COORDINATOR
EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

OVERVIEW

There are several different approaches to assessing social value in play across the local authority sector.

We have found the world of social value measurement is reaching a tipping point where a local authority developed, and managed solution is in demand and very appealing.

Working with regional colleagues the Action Learning Set was formed to drive a Tech Sprint, ready to launch a viable product by 2023!

THE CASE STUDY

Led by East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Rose Regeneration, the [Social Value Engine \(SVE\)](#) is impact measurement [software tool](#) is the only UK software tool accredited by SVUK and Social Value International with its alignment with the eight [Principles of Social Value](#). The SVE is widely used by 150+ users from the public, private and third sectors.

Each of the 360+ financial proxies within the SVE link to the Bristol Accord and the Sustainable Development Goals - giving you an overview of how your organisation or activity is generating benefits to society, the economy and positive impacts to the environment and local communities via external spend.

The SVE team always strives to be responsive to our customers and we use their feedback on the Engine to continuously develop and improve the software. This summer, we kicked off an innovative tech 'sprint' process whereby we have been working with local authority colleagues across the Yorkshire and Humber who have volunteered their time to identify and implement potential software development ideas.

COLLABORATION

28 voices from 10+ organisations

This process is still ongoing, but follows five key stages:

Stage 1 - 'Understand' - Led by [social value consultant Nicola Lynch](#), the SVE team met both in person and online to understand our local authority colleagues' needs for impact measurement and the challenges they face (July 2022)

Stage 2 - 'Diverge' - Group orientation and one-to-one Local Authority sessions to develop solutions. (September 2022)

Stage 3 'Decide' - Group session to choose, prioritise and storyboard the best idea(s) put forward from the sessions. (October 2022)

Stage 4 - 'Prototype' - Implementation of the selected solution(s) and demonstration of usability to stakeholders (November 2022)

Stage 5 'Validate' - Working with local authority colleagues, learn what does and doesn't work (Dec 2022)

Participating councils provide staff time, but there is no direct financial cost or contractual commitment to being involved in the process. At the end of the sprint participants and any suppliers involved will be offered a 25% discount on our published [G-Cloud](#) pricing. Councils who take advantage of this offer will become the SVE's 'Reference Group' and their collective needs prioritised.

The sprint has been a novel and challenging experience but one the SVE team is learning much from. With the SVE's foundation in the principles of social value we have been able to ensure that any developments suggested prioritise stakeholders, are evidence-based and are squarely focused on positive outcomes for people and communities.

STAKEHOLDER QUOTE

"A straight-forward model is needed that moves away from charging suppliers who win contracts (public sector ends up paying indirectly as suppliers build it into their costs) - this doesn't resonate with commissioners and members" "Not a 'one size fits all tool/model - needs to be flexible to meet different policies and procedures."

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NEXT?

Launch the product nationally to all Local Authorities

For further details please contact Joanne direct on **07971 066 759** or by email: joanne.bannister@eastriding.gov.uk