The Draft Procurement Strategy

1.	What is the matter that is considered as a scrutiny issue?	In the Annual Workshop for preparing the forward programme of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee for 2015/16, members identified the need to scrutinise the Draft Procurement Strategy prior to its adoption by the Cabinet. In 2013/14, the Council spent £185m on the provision of goods, work and services by external organisations and, therefore, there is a responsibility to ensure that the Council's resources are used in the best possible way to satisfy the needs of the county's residents and at the same time ensuring the best value for the Council and the local economy. The Procurement Strategy, which is currently in draft form, establishes the policy direction, the objectives and priorities which are to be implemented on a corporate, regional and national level up until 2017.
2.	What can the Scrutiny Committee consider?	<ul> <li>I. How successful was the previous Procurement Strategy (2008-2011) in terms of achieving all its objectives?</li> <li>II. What is the general ambition of the Council for procurement as noted in the draft Strategy and is the ambition achievable and realistic?</li> <li>III. How does the Council succeed in striking a balance between ensuring value for money and keeping the benefit local in respect of procurement?</li> <li>IV. What formal/informal engagement has there been</li> </ul>

	with stakeholders locally to ensure that the private sector and the third sector in Gwynedd are prepared and able to maximise the opportunities from the Council's new procurement processes to ensure that the benefit is kept locally? What was the outcome of any engagement?
V.	Has the Council sufficient resources available to achieve the new Procurement Strategy?
VI.	Are the measures for the draft Strategy fit for purpose and do they include the financial impact of the Council's expenditure and the impact on residents?
VII.	How will it be possible to secure commitment and understanding across the Council to realise the new procurement arrangements and the objectives of the Strategy?
VIII.	How certain are we as a Council of the contribution of procurement to finding financial savings for the Council? What is the sum of the saving that is anticipated will be achieved during the lifetime of this Procurement Strategy?
IX.	Does category management offer the best opportunity to ensure robust control of the Council's procurement arrangements and the best opportunity to ensure value for money/financial savings?

		X. How active is e-procurement across the Council?
		XI. Do all the local, regional and national policies/frameworks in the procurement field address the language requirements of the Council's Language Plan (proposed Language Standards) and the guidelines for 'Awarding Public Service Contracts and the Welsh Language'? What methods have been established to measure compliance with the requirements of the Council's Language Plan?
3.	What will scrutiny achieve?	Direct questioning of the Cabinet Member in order to seek to influence policy and/or the decision of the Cabinet Member in the future.
4.	Form of scrutiny	Specific questioning in the Scrutiny Committee itself on the questions in 2 above.
5.	Accountable Cabinet Member	Councillor Mandy Williams-Davies