

Sustainable Procurement Strategy

What is Sustainable Procurement?

Sustainable Procurement is a process whereby organisations meet their needs for goods, services, works and utilities in a way that achieves value for money on a whole life basis in terms of generating benefits not only to the organisation, but also to society and the economy, whilst minimising damage to the environment'.

Our goals

- Have an effective sustainable procurement practice embedded within our processes. We will ensure that procurement is recognised as being vital to the delivery of our corporate objectives;
- Ensure our procurement activity is outcome-focused with well-defined deliverables that cover environmental, social and economic issues such as reducing CO2 emissions, promoting equal pay and providing opportunities for suppliers.
- Engage with our suppliers to ensure they recognise and understand their role in supporting these objectives.
- Appoint a sustainable procurement expert who will be responsible for maintaining momentum and driving this agenda forward. This person will be the main point for policy advice, mentoring and training on sustainable procurement matters.
- A track record of sustainability benefits delivered will be in place and publicised to recognise progress and success.
- Ensuring sustainable procurement is linked to our procurement practitioners' individual key work objectives through their performance agreements.

Build capacity and removing barriers

We will develop our capabilities on sustainable procurement through:

- Benchmarking our performance at least on an annual basis.
- Developing our guidance to ensure it is fit for purpose for our procurement purchasing department whilst also providing the appropriate training which focuses on actual sustainable procurement delivery.
- Utilising technology to provide us with a detailed spend analysis enabling us to identify areas of priority spend.
- Ensuring environmental, social and economic issues are addressed at all stages throughout the procurement lifecycle.

- Ensure our budgetary mechanisms enable and support sustainable procurement.

Capture opportunities

We recognise the potential benefits our suppliers can offer. Through smarter engagement with the market we hope to stimulate innovation. We will do this through:

- Being open to ideas whilst recognising that often innovation and risk go hand in hand. We will ensure effective risk management processes are in place.
- Revealing whenever possible our long term plans and communicating this to the appropriate market.
- Using output specifications to avoid constraining the solution with detailed specification. We will allow the markets to respond with innovative solutions.
- Working with the markets on joint improvement plans to deliver sustainable and value for money outcomes.

Measuring success

- This strategy is a forward looking document. Following implementation, it will be updated and managed as follows:
- Publicise strategy and updates across C&K, key stakeholders and suppliers
- Post Implementation Review after 6 months
- Update strategy on annual basis, ensuring it remains compliant and consistent with legislation and company policy and commercial best practice