

Agenda Item 9	Appendix
Procurement Review	3



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH**
COMBINED AUTHORITY

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PROCUREMENT POLICY

1 Introduction

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority recognises its responsibility for procuring the delivery of its corporate objectives in an economically, environmentally, and socially responsible Manner.

The Authority’s procurement approach is supported by the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012, this both requires and enables authorities to consider the wider impacts of a contract and to the community in which serve.

This policy sets out a number of key topics across the social, economic & environmental considerations and then details how these will be considered across the whole life of a contract.

This procurement policy is governed by all relevant Statutes pertaining to the Combined Authority, including the Best Value Duty. To demonstrate this Duty procurements will need to focus on price and quality as well as the wider areas noted below

2 Policy Focus 2023/ 2024

Key topics on which our sustainable procurement approach is focused is set out below

Topic Area	Social	Economic	Environmental
Stakeholder Engagement	✓	✓	✓
Equality, Diversity & Wellbeing	✓		
Ethical Supply	✓	✓	✓
Supporting SMEs and Local Businesses	✓	✓	✓
Supporting Third Sector & Social Enterprise	✓	✓	✓
Training, education, and employment opportunities (including for individuals with protected characteristics)	✓	✓	
Commitment to pay the Living Wage	✓	✓	
Carbon Emissions & Energy Usage reductions (including Net Zero)	✓	✓	✓
Protection of Wildlife	✓		✓
Supporting Community Projects	✓	✓	✓
Waste Reduction, re-use & recycle	✓	✓	✓
Improved reporting	✓	✓	

3 Embedding Social Value into Procurement

The above topics will be addressed through the following levers

Procurement Instruction Document – asking what the social, environmental, and economic impacts of the contract are and ensuring appropriate impact assessments are carried out and a sustainable procurement strategy agreed before a procurement is launched

Selection Questionnaire – asking targeted questions which seek identify suppliers with an appropriate track record in considerations of the agreed sustainable procurement strategy

Invitation to Tender – including requirements within the method statement questions and award criteria that will ensure that the successful supplier will deliver against the agreed sustainable procurement strategy

Specification – embedding all of agreed policy topics within the specification to ensure all bidders understand the authority's and project expectations; against which tender submission can be transparently assessed.

Accessibility – taking steps to remove unnecessary barriers to supplier participation

- Removing or reducing financial turnover thresholds, where financial risk is not high, to enable small firms or start-ups are not excluded;
- Dividing larger contracts into **lots** so that small organisations with limited capacity can bid for part of the contract;
- Ensuring the procurement process is accessible to bids from **consortia** or partnerships;
- Engaging in **supplier engagement** with the market, prior to major tender exercises, to ensure local bidders understand the process.

4 Specific Policy Commitments

We will

Stakeholder Engagement

- ❖ Consult with stakeholders, partner authorities, the supply chain and service users to ensure the procurement is designed and managed to optimise delivery outcomes and facilitate efficient governance.

Equality, Diversity & Wellbeing

- ❖ Embed our commitment to equality, diversity, and wellbeing into all of our procurements and contracts
- ❖ Reward suppliers who are active in promoting inclusivity and supporting wellbeing within their own organisation's processes and throughout their supply chain

Ethical Supply

- ❖ Encourage suppliers who provide goods or services (including from overseas) to be aware of the impact of these sourcing decisions (including Modern Slavery (PPN 02/23), fairtrade or other relevant accreditations.

Supporting SMEs and Local Businesses

- ❖ Recognise the benefit of sourcing locally where possible
- ❖ Design the procurement/ contract structure to be accessible to SMEs, e.g., use of lots, reducing turnover requirements, application of PPN 11/20 reserving below threshold procurements, etc.
- ❖ Encourage tier one suppliers appointed by the authority to work with SMEs/ local suppliers where practicable to support a sustainable local economy

Supporting Third Sector & Social Enterprise

- ❖ Take steps to ensure our procurement process is as accessible as possible to third sector and social enterprise bidders, by identifying and removing barriers to their participation, and by recognising alternative bidding models, including partnership and consortium bids.
- ❖ Encourage suppliers to take steps to make supply chain opportunities accessible to relevant local third sector organisations and social enterprises.
- ❖ Provide regular engagement and information sessions to ensure local third sector organisations and social enterprises understand the procurement process, and to receive their feedback.

Training, education, and employment opportunities (including for individuals with protected characteristics)

- ❖ Encourage suppliers to support employment opportunities for people from disadvantaged categories – such as those not in education, employment or training (NEET), long term unemployed, people with physical disabilities, learning disabilities or mental health problems, ex-offenders, and ex-armed forces personnel.
- ❖ Encourage suppliers to engage with local training providers to support developing the local workforce and creating local opportunities; e.g., work experience, career events, apprenticeships, placements.

Commitment to pay the Living Wage

- ❖ Include in all in scope contracts, the requirement to pay the living wage in accordance with the Living Wage Foundation accreditation rules.

Carbon Emissions & Energy Usage reductions (including Net Zero)

- ❖ Encourage suppliers to have Carbon Reduction Plans and to commit to achieving Net Zero by 2050

Protection of Wildlife

- ❖ Encourage suppliers, as part of their environmental impact assessments for relevant projects, to demonstrate how they will seek to preserve, and potentially enhance local wildlife as part of delivering the contract.

Supporting Community Projects

- ❖ Encourage suppliers, as part of their social value considerations, to identify how they can support community projects

Waste Reduction, re-use & recycle

- ❖ Seek to reduce the impact of goods, services and works through waste minimisation - including packaging waste, construction waste, the disposal of any consumables, and the disposal of assets at end of life
- ❖ Encourage suppliers to take action to reduce waste and promote re-use, remanufacture and recycling at every level of the supply chain

Improved reporting

- ❖ Encourage suppliers to agreed and regularly report on both their organisation achievements and what they have specifically delivered for the authority against their tendered/ contracted commitments.

5 Contact Us

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