

SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

INTRODUCTION

Practicing sustainable procurement supports the University's [role as a civic university](#) and contributes to the University's [strategic objectives](#), helping the University:

- achieve and maintain financial and environmental sustainability
- make a positive impact on society
- contribute to the economy of the North East of England

Sustainable procurement is the process of acquiring goods and services that:

- Meet users' needs
- Deliver long term value for money
- Maximise social and economic benefits
- Minimise damage to the environment and health

(Forum for the Future - Buying a Better World, 2007)

SCOPE

Applicable to all works, goods and services purchased for the University.

STRATEGY

The University's Procurement Services section will:

- Embed sustainable procurement within the University's purchasing procedures, practices, and policies.
- Review all negative and positive environmental, social and financial impacts before commencing a tender exercise, and incorporate relevant sustainability requirements into the specification, assessment criteria, and contract performance/clauses where possible.
- Work with the University's contracted suppliers to manage negative sustainability impacts and realise positive sustainability benefits of contracts.
- Provide training, guidance and tools to University staff so they can comply with and support the Sustainable Purchasing Policy.

University staff can support the Sustainable Purchasing Policy by:

- Considering whether the need to purchase goods or services can be avoided altogether.
- Improving their own purchasing practices.
- Purchasing products that support relevant University policies and/or are accredited to independent, recognised environmental/ethical standards.
- Considering the full cost of operating equipment (maintenance, energy, water, consumables etc.) as well as the cost to purchase.
- Reducing waste.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

We will measure our progress using several methods, e.g.

- Assessment against the Sustainable Procurement Task Force Flexible Framework.
- As part of the Procurement Maturity Assessment conducted by the SUPC Procurement Shared Service.

We will share our progress on the Procurement Services internal and external websites.

The Strategy and Policy will be reviewed annually by the Head of Procurement.

Sustainable Procurement Strategy - Version 3

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