

SRUC PROCUREMENT:

SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

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Introduction



This document describes how SRUC will procure goods and services in a sustainable manner.

This strategy is designed to support SRUC budget holders, staff with purchasing authority, and suppliers to utilise SRUC's resources in a manner that ensures value for money, and compliance with the European Union and the Scottish Government's legislation governing Public Procurement.

Approval for this strategy will come through SRUC's established authorisation route.

What is Sustainable Procurement?

The Scottish Government's Sustainable Procurement Action Plan (2009) defines Sustainable Procurement as:

“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.”

The three key areas of sustainability that SRUC must consider are:

1. Economic Impact e.g. Ethical Trading, Supplier Profitability, support of Small & Medium sized Enterprises, and Supported Social Enterprises.
2. Impact on Society e.g. Fair Working Practices, Living Wage, Diversity, Non-Discrimination
3. Environmental Impact e.g. Climate Change, Pollution, Re-cycling, Renewables

These are known as the “Triple Bottom Line”. Performance is not judged purely on the basis of profit, but also by the impact SRUC's activities have on people and our planet.

What are the benefits of Sustainable Procurement to SRUC?

A consistent and organisation-wide adoption of sustainable procurement practices will benefit SRUC by:

- Minimising business risk through the adoption of consistent and transparent procedures for all purchasing activities.
- Generation of long-term savings by focusing on whole life costs when sourcing goods and services. The concept of whole life costs includes consideration of all elements of a purchase, such as:
 - the purchase price;
 - minimum order quantities, cost of delivery and packaging, and cost of storage;
 - operating costs, maintenance, parts and consumables;
 - staff training;
 - energy consumption and emissions;
 - insurance;
 - reuse and sharing across SRUC;
 - end of life disposal;
 - recycling;
 - reduction of the amount and cost of waste going to landfill.

What are the benefits of Sustainable Procurement to SRUC?

- Enhancement of SRUC's corporate image both at home, and abroad.
- Creation of opportunities for new and innovative products and services.
- Creation of opportunities for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises, and Supported Social Enterprises.
- Securing the supply of goods and services in the light of increasing environmental legislation and increased pressure and demand on scarce resources.
- Reductions in waste and volumes of waste going to landfill, including:
 - Reductions in packaging and use of innovative supply chain logistics;
 - Increased levels of recycling and reverse logistics;
 - Use of economic order quantities and improved planning;
 - Use of electronic communication.

What can we do to make SRUC sustainable?

At the start of each procurement journey we will work with internal stakeholders and external suppliers to develop specifications that:

- Comply with the provisions of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 and associated Sustainable Procurement Duty;
- Always consider the whole life cost, and environmental and social impact of purchased goods and services;
- Seek cost-effective, and where possible innovative alternatives to environmentally or socially unsustainable materials, products and processes;
- Minimise waste, including packaging, produced by the product (or service), and waste produced as part of the disposal of the product (or service);
- Consider reverse logistics (i.e. product return) capabilities to support recycling or disposal of products;
- Consider planned transportation and logistics that minimise social and environmental impacts e.g. traffic congestion, noise, pollution and energy use;
- Maximise re-use and recycling;
- Ensure ethical and socially responsible trading and employment practices not only by direct suppliers to SRUC, but also through the whole supply chain;
- Maximise access to contracts for small, diverse, and local suppliers.



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