

London Borough of Greenwich

Background

Greenwich Council has 6 departments and employs over 10,000 people, working from 30 offices. The Council spends over £303.7m annually on goods, works and services.

Sustainable purchasing

Paper and stationery

- Council stores supply chain partner meets the requirements for FSC and PEFC Chain of Custody within the BM TRADA Certification.
- Working to ensure that all stationery supplies are made of recycled materials.
- The supplies catalogue is restricted so that only 'greener' products are available.

Vehicles

- All Council vehicles run on Ad blue and 5% Bio diesel blend.
- Target for all new Council fleet vehicles to be at least Euro 4/5 standard.
- Retrofitting exhausts of all large HGVs to meet the restrictions of the Low Emission Zone.

Catering

- Framework contract with

local suppliers for fresh fruits, vegetables and meat.

- Replaced bottled water with mains-fed at one of its main depots.

Fairtrade

- Working with supplier and the Fair Trade foundation to supply fair trade polo shirts and sweatshirts for staff.
- In discussion with contracted supplier regarding fair trade school uniforms.
- Identified up to 15 fair trade products used in school catering, which are currently being ordered.

Construction & maintenance

- Contractors must submit a copy of their environmental policy, or similar, plus details of how they will deliver the work in line with their objectives.
- Contractors must provide proposals regarding the use of recycled materials.

Implementation

The Strategic Sourcing Manager acts as a Sustainable Procurement Champion.

All Strategic Procurement Services staff have attained the Metropolitan University foundation certificate in

sustainable procurement.

Council officers attended training on the flexible framework, delivered by the Mayor of London's Green Procurement Code.

The Strategic Sourcing Manager has completed the advanced CPD and IEMA certified Sustainable Procurement Training.

Strategic Procurement Services staff responsible for setting up contracts have been set key procurement objectives in the PRAD process:

- Reviewing the PQQ process with regards to sustainability
- Ensuring that sustainability requirements withstand legal scrutiny
- Developing a sustainability risk matrix

Sustainability is covered in the Council's service plan. All service heads must review the service plan and take account of sustainability within their departments. The Sustainable Procurement Policy is listed on the Council's procurement website.

Policy

The Council has a Sustainable Procurement Policy and Guidance document. The document is linked to the

Council's Strategy, the Sustainable Development Policy and the Corporate & Performance plan. The policy has been approved by the Director of Finance and Customer Services and forwarded by the Leader of the Council.

The Strategic Procurement Services team is responsible for developing and implementing the Sustainable Procurement Policy. The Strategic Sourcing Manager monitors the implementation of the policy, and it has been independently audited by an IEMA accredited auditor.

Communicating with stakeholders

The Strategic Sourcing Manager sits on the Greener Greenwich Task Force, which communicates on all environmental issues. The Strategic Procurement Services team regularly organise sustainable procurement events for Council staff.

Communications have been internally focused up until now to ensure that the information is credible and that the Council's systems will withstand external scrutiny.

Communication with suppliers and the public is through the Council's procurement website, the contract management process, the local Chamber of Commerce, the tendering process, and telephone conversations with key suppliers. South East Enterprise runs events for suppliers on behalf of the Council.

Results

Winners of the Office Depot Green Customer Award (Public Sector).

Looking to the future

Greenwich Council's future plans include:

- Carry out detailed sustainability risk analysis and prioritise high risk categories for action.
- Implement measures focused on policy development and processes.
- Formally benchmark with peer organisations.
- Implement a programme of supplier engagement with senior management support.
- Develop the role of Sustainable Procurement Champion
- Give advanced training in sustainable procurement processes to key procurement staff.
- Advanced training in sustainable procurement for all procurement staff.
- Include sustainable procurement in induction programme and staff appraisal process.
- Include sustainable procurement in communications plan.
- Externally publicise achievements in sustainable procurement - to include case studies and submissions for external awards.

Contact

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