



Mumbles Community Council Sustainable Procurement Policy (Approved 11th February 2025)

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Sustainable Procurement Policy

1. Purpose and Objectives

This policy establishes our commitment to:

- Reducing carbon emissions.
- Promoting sustainable supply chain practices.
- Supporting local economic development.
- Complying with the **Environment (Wales) Act 2016**, particularly Section 6 on sustainable development.
- Aligning with the principles of the **Big Climate Leap**.
- Adhering to the provisions of the **Procurement Act 2023**.

2. Scope

Applicable to all procurement activities conducted by Mumbles Community Council, encompassing goods, services, and works.

3. Legal and Strategic Framework

This policy is guided by:

- **Environment (Wales) Act 2016** – emphasising sustainable development and carbon reduction.
- **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015** – ensuring procurement supports long-term environmental, social, and economic well-being.
- **Procurement Act 2023** – introducing a new public procurement regime that is simpler, more flexible, and better meets the needs of the UK.
- Relevant UK and EU procurement regulations ensuring fair and transparent competition.
- **Beyond Recycling Strategy** – obligating the Welsh public sector to prioritise the use of recycled, re-used, and re-manufactured content in products purchased.
- **Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales** – committing the public sector to decarbonise by 2030.

4. Key Principles

To achieve our objectives, procurement activities will:

- **Prioritise Carbon Reduction:** Evaluate suppliers based on sustainability ratings, favouring those with robust carbon reduction commitments.
- **Encourage Sustainable Practices:** Advocate for the use of environmentally friendly materials, renewable energy, and circular economy principles.
- **Support Local Suppliers:** Engage with local businesses to boost regional economic growth and minimise transportation emissions.
- **Implement Whole Life Costing:** Consider the total cost of ownership, including environmental impacts, over the product's entire lifespan.
- **Apply the Sustainable Procurement Hierarchy:** Prioritise procurement options that reduce resource consumption and waste.
- **Ensure Compliance with the Procurement Act 2023:** Adapt procurement processes to align with the new procedures and requirements introduced by the Act.

5. Supplier Engagement

In line with the procurement rules set out in Financial Regulations as detailed below:

When it is to enter into a contract of between £3,000 and £24,999 in value for the supply of goods or materials or for the execution of works or specialist services other than such goods, materials, works or specialist services as are excepted as set out in paragraph 11.1(a) the Clerk or RFO shall obtain 3 quotations (priced descriptions of the proposed supply); where the value is between £100 and £2,999 the Clerk or RFO shall strive to obtain 3 estimates.

Suppliers providing services over £3000 threshold are expected to:

- Provide evidence of their carbon reduction measures, such as sustainability ratings or equivalent certifications.
- Comply with the new obligations and standards outlined in the Procurement Act 2023.

When procuring services under £3000, officers will be expected to consider the following points.

- Is the supplier local within a 50 mile radius
- Buying civic amenity furniture, ensure the material is recycled plastic or sustainably certified wood.
- Bulb and seed planting – British native flowers/plants/seeds
- Food and drink provisions – Fair Trade or Welsh
- No single-use plastic

6. Compliance and Monitoring

To ensure adherence to this policy, we will implement:

- **Annual Environmental Audits:** Conduct yearly audits of procurement activities to assess compliance with environmental objectives, measure progress, and identify areas for improvement.
- **Contractual Obligations:** Include clauses in contracts requiring suppliers to report on carbon reduction efforts and provide evidence of compliance.
- **Alignment with the Procurement Act 2023:** Ensure all procurement activities comply with the transparency, flexibility, and efficiency requirements introduced by the Act.

7. Continuous Improvement

This policy will undergo annual reviews to ensure its effectiveness in reducing carbon emissions and achieving sustainable procurement goals. Feedback from suppliers and stakeholders will inform refinements and enhancements.

8. Governance

The Mumbles Community Council is responsible for implementing and monitoring this policy. A designated committee will oversee key decisions to ensure alignment with legal and strategic objectives.

9. Training and Awareness

To ensure consistent application, all procurement personnel will receive training on this policy, the importance of sustainable procurement practices, and the new procedures introduced by the Procurement Act 2023.