

# UWE Bristol

## Responsible Procurement ESG Policy

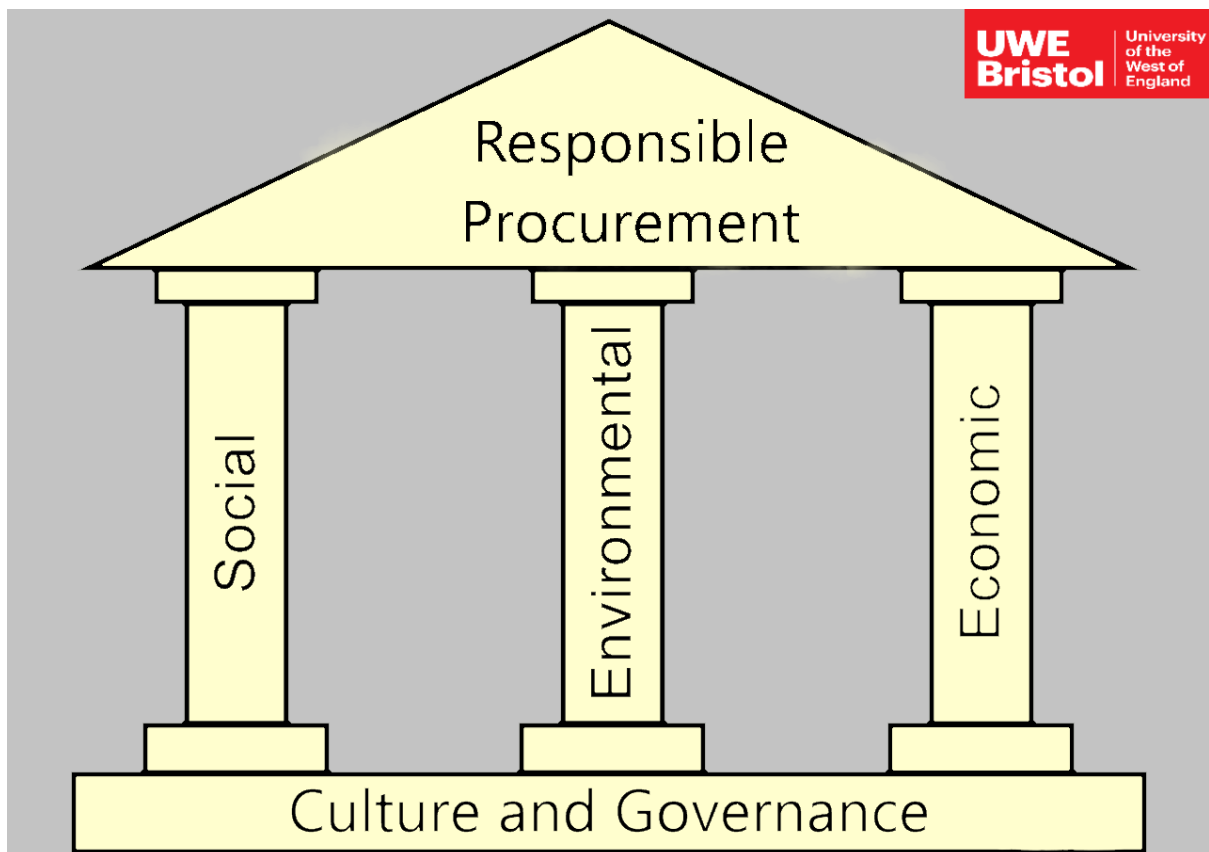


## UWE Responsible Procurement ESG Policy

To reach UWE Bristol's goals, including Net Zero 2030, responsible procurement must play a major part. In this document we aim to address the key areas of focus as recommended by the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO):

- organisational governance;
- human rights;
- labour practices;
- the environment;
- fair operating practices;
- consumer issues; and
- community involvement and development.

We can do this under the sustainability pillars: Environmental, Social, and Economic. This will build on the work already done at UWE and being addressed through the [Circular Economy Plan](#), [the Carbon and Energy Management Plan](#) and the Scope 3 Action Plan.



To address the sustainability goals in [Strategy 2030](#), reach our net zero targets and strive to fulfil our role in the achievement of the [United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals](#) we will focus our work on suppliers and on the following priority areas:

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- GHG reduction through energy and resource efficiency measures and reducing carbon emissions in our supply chain
- Optimising the use of natural resources in our procurement decisions and throughout our supply chain in alignment with the [Circular Economy Plan](#)
- Effectively managing waste in the supply chain to meet the goals in [Circular Economy Plan](#)
- Reduction in packaging and other non-essential single use plastic to meet the University's commitments as [signatories to the UK Plastics Pact](#)
- Supporting the reduction of our carbon impact and the achievement of targets in [the Carbon and Energy Management Plan](#)
- Working with suppliers, faculties and the SU to normalise and prioritise sustainability

All procurement decisions will be made with regard to the following statements, policies and/or plans:

### **Social**

Human Rights - [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion](#), [Modern Slavery](#)

Labour Practices – [Real Living Wage](#), [Fair Trade](#), [Health and Safety](#)

[Social Value](#) (Community Involvement and Development) including Student placements, employability, Apprenticeships and internships

### **Economic**

Fair Operating practices - Fraud, [Bribery](#) and Corruption, [Prompt Payment](#)

Consumer Issues - Information Security, SMEs, Charities, Social Enterprise, Local Supply Chains/Economy, [Plastics Pact](#), Conflict Free Minerals, [Palm oil](#), [Use of animal products](#)

### **Environment**

Climate Change – [Climate and Ecological Emergency](#)

Resource use and waste reduction - [Circular Economy Plan](#)

Energy efficiency and decarbonisation of energy supply - [Carbon and Energy Management Plan](#)

Pollution – improved air quality through [Clean Air Zones](#) , reduction in [travel](#) and adherence to [ISO14001:2015](#).

Biodiversity and natural habitat enhancement - [Landscape and Biodiversity Plan](#)

### **Responsibilities**

Anyone purchasing goods and services on behalf of the University has an obligation to ensure that they seek training to support sustainable purchasing decisions and to demonstrate compliance with all the sustainability considerations above.

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Sustainability can be enhanced (within legal requirements) through:

- Discussion with sustainability team to determine if pre-used items are available (WARP-it etc info)
- Avoidance of products containing less sustainable materials and those that don't meet other UWE commitments
- Specification of products that are manufactured with a high recycled content, are durable and easy to repair, and which can eventually be recycled (or reused) fitting with the [Circular Economy Plan](#)
- Specification of products that reduce energy consumption and consider whole life cycle with advice from energy and sustainability teams
- Consolidating deliveries to the University, and timing deliveries in discussion with travel/events teams to reduce congestion
- Prioritise suppliers that can demonstrate how they are reducing their environmental impact (in particular their carbon footprint)
- Encourage use of local and SME suppliers who can deliver best value

UWE Bristol Procurement Services will:

- Develop evaluation procedures so environmental, social and ethical preferences are weighted accordingly
- Work with the sustainability team to carry out a sustainability assessment of UWE Bristol's major suppliers at tender stage
- Use the sector based and best practice guidance to support decisions
- Influence public procurement consortia to ensure sustainability is appropriately featured and evaluated and monitored in all tenders
- Monitor our key suppliers on an ongoing basis with regard to their sustainability policies and practices
- Undertake ongoing supplier engagement through contract review and signposting services and support
- Support and develop the sustainability policies and practices of our suppliers, prioritising those in areas identified by the Scope 3 action plan
- Collaborate with the sustainability team to promote contracts that offer environmentally preferable products as alternatives where practicable

UWE sustainability team will:

- Provide University departments with advice and practical support (e.g. Warp-It, LEAF) on sustainability issues relating to procurement
- Collaborate with procurement services to provide support and signposting to sustainability advice and services for suppliers
- Input to tender processes including evaluation criteria and scoring submissions

Measures contained in this responsible procurement policy are expanded in our [Supplier Code of Conduct](#) which suppliers are required to adhere to.

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