

Appendix 2. Sustainable procurement policy

The Authority's vision is "To improve people's quality of life by ensuring that waste is sustainably managed to bring about the best combination of environmental, economic and social benefits".

Accordingly, we recognise that

- procurement can have a significant impact on the economy, society and the environment, locally and further afield, and therefore that
- we need to procure products and services in a more sustainable way.

For the purpose of this policy, we define sustainable procurement as

"A process whereby we meet our 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".

Tackling the way in which we sustainably procure products and services, to reflect our vision, will require a corporate and systematic approach towards

- identifying the need to procure in the first place
- taking into consideration the Whole Life Cost ('cradle to grave') of a product or service
- buying sustainable products and services
- demonstrating continuous improvement and
- delivering the benefits to our core business and stakeholders

This policy underpins our sustainability policy therefore we are committed to considering the environmental, social and economic consequences of all aspects of procurement, including the capability of suppliers and contractors to address sustainable procurement through the supply chain for our purchases.

Additionally, we will:

- Promote sustainable procurement awareness amongst all of our stakeholders, including Members, staff, partners, residents and the local community
- Ensure that employees who are responsible for procurement are specifically trained in sustainable procurement
- Set and review our aims, objectives and targets with a view to the continual improvement of our sustainable procurement performance
- Maximise the benefits of this policy through joint working on sustainable procurement initiatives at a Merseyside and regional level.