



Sustainability Policy

Introduction

TUCO Ltd is a not for profit organisation operating in the public sector catering arena. The aim is to provide a range of procurement services, compliant with legislation, which will maximise buying power whilst taking account of social and economic values and responsibilities.

Sustainable Procurement Task Force define 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 to the economy whilst minimising damage to the environment”.

As part of the process to improve procurement performance at TUCO Ltd, we have embedded Sustainable Procurement within our policies as we recognise that food & sundry commodity choices have potential to promote responsible sourcing & traceability within the supply chain and influence a healthy lifestyle.

TUCO Ltd Sustainable Procurement Objectives:

Our key objectives are to aim towards:

- Compliance with environmental legislation and regulatory requirements.
- Encourage Environmental Industry Standard Accreditation (FSC, MSC)
- Value for money, including consideration of whole life costs throughout contracts.
- Creating Sustainable Framework Agreements which are structured and advertised to appeal to the widest possible number of suppliers.
- Adherence to appropriate quality assurance standards for food safety, animal welfare and production.
- Promoting Sustainable Procurement opportunities to clients.
- Encouragement of the implementation of Environmental Management Systems, Environmental Policy or equivalent.
- Promoting best practice by collaboration with other HE/FE purchasing consortia in supply chain management and sustainability.
- Encouraging 1st tier suppliers to identify & address points of sustainability risk in the end to end supply chain.
- Encouraging the 4R's (reduce, reuse, recycle and re-think) throughout the end to end supply chain.

TUCO Ltd's Commitment to Sustainable Procurement

TUCO Ltd will endeavour to work with its suppliers and clients to implement Sustainable Procurement throughout the tender process and Contract Management, where possible, as follows:

- Promote best value.

- Encourage suppliers to improve the use and avoid the waste of natural resources through cleaner processes and technologies
- Promote reduction of waste throughout the supply chain
- Maintain / improve food safety and quality.
- Promote increased use of fresh, organic and seasonal produce.
- Promote more sustainable farming methods.
- Promote animal welfare.
- Work with suppliers to provide a range of products to meet special dietary requirements.
- Support fairly traded food and drink within legislative requirements.
- Promote good nutrition and health to contribute to UK dietary goals.
- Promote responsible drinking and alcohol awareness.
- Increase participation of Small Medium Enterprises (SME's).
- Endeavour to reduce carbon footprint and lessen emissions which impact on climate change.
- Explore opportunities to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle packaging materials.
- Explore opportunities to reduce energy consumption and use alternative renewable options where possible.
- Improve water efficiency and quality.
- Consider whole life costing.
- Develop transparency in the supply chain with regard to worker's rights and environmental issues
- Highlight to suppliers the importance of community investment by local sourcing, sourcing from dis-advantaged communities, disabled, ethnic minorities.
- Highlight the availability of external/third party auditors such as the International Labour Organisation and Ethical Trading Initiative to suppliers.

Policy Management

Key Performance Indicators will be developed together with evaluation criteria to monitor and measure our progress and mitigate adverse risk.

TUCO Ltd Accountability

As a National Catering Purchasing Consortium, TUCO Ltd are accountable for and committed to where possible:

- Promoting the prudent use of natural resources and the minimisation of waste.
- Exploring opportunities to reduce, reuse and recycle materials where appropriate.
- Assisting and supporting TUCO Ltd clients with sustainability issues, through training and networking at meetings.
- Encouraging the use of sustainable transport for staff and clients involved in TUCO Ltd activities.
- Interacting with Environmental Management Companies such as WRAP and DEFRA, to help develop and keep current internal documentation and devise strategies to deal with key issues.

Communication

The TUCO Ltd Sustainability Champion shall ensure that all Category Managers are aware to include this policy as part of the tender documentation for each Framework Agreement. Category Managers are also aware to provide a copy of the policy to current suppliers on each Framework Agreement.

This policy statement shall be readily available to all internal and external stakeholders via the TUCO Ltd website at www.tuco.org

The Board of Directors shall be responsible for ensuring that this policy statement is regularly reviewed to ensure corrective and preventative actions have been taken to deliver continual improvement.

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