

Sustainable Procurement Policy

Introduction

The Council spends around £600million each year with external suppliers, and as one of the main procurers in the area, the Council will lead the way in delivering sustainable procurement. We will do this by maximising the local impact of the Council's spend and through this deliver community benefits to our residents. This policy sets out how the Council will use its purchasing power to maximise the local impact of its spend. This will ensure that every pound the Council spends achieves the most value for Nottinghamshire residents.

The Government's National Procurement Policy Statement published in 2021 sets out the strategic priorities for public procurement and how contracting authorities can support its delivery. The Council's Procurement Strategy 2019-2023 highlights an increased focus on the delivery of social, economic, and environmental benefits through our procurement spend. This sustainable procurement policy will expand on our ambitions ensuring that we are adding social value throughout our commissioning, procurement, and contract management activity

The Council's commitment to social, economic, and environmental well-being is also reflected in 'The Nottinghamshire Plan 2021-2031: Healthy, Prosperous, Green'. The Council has set an ambitious target to become carbon neutral by 2030, recognising that our communities are facing a climate emergency. To help us achieve our aims, we are determined to gain additional community benefit from our spend each year on buying goods and services.

Why Sustainable Procurement

We will maximise sustainable procurement through these key principles:

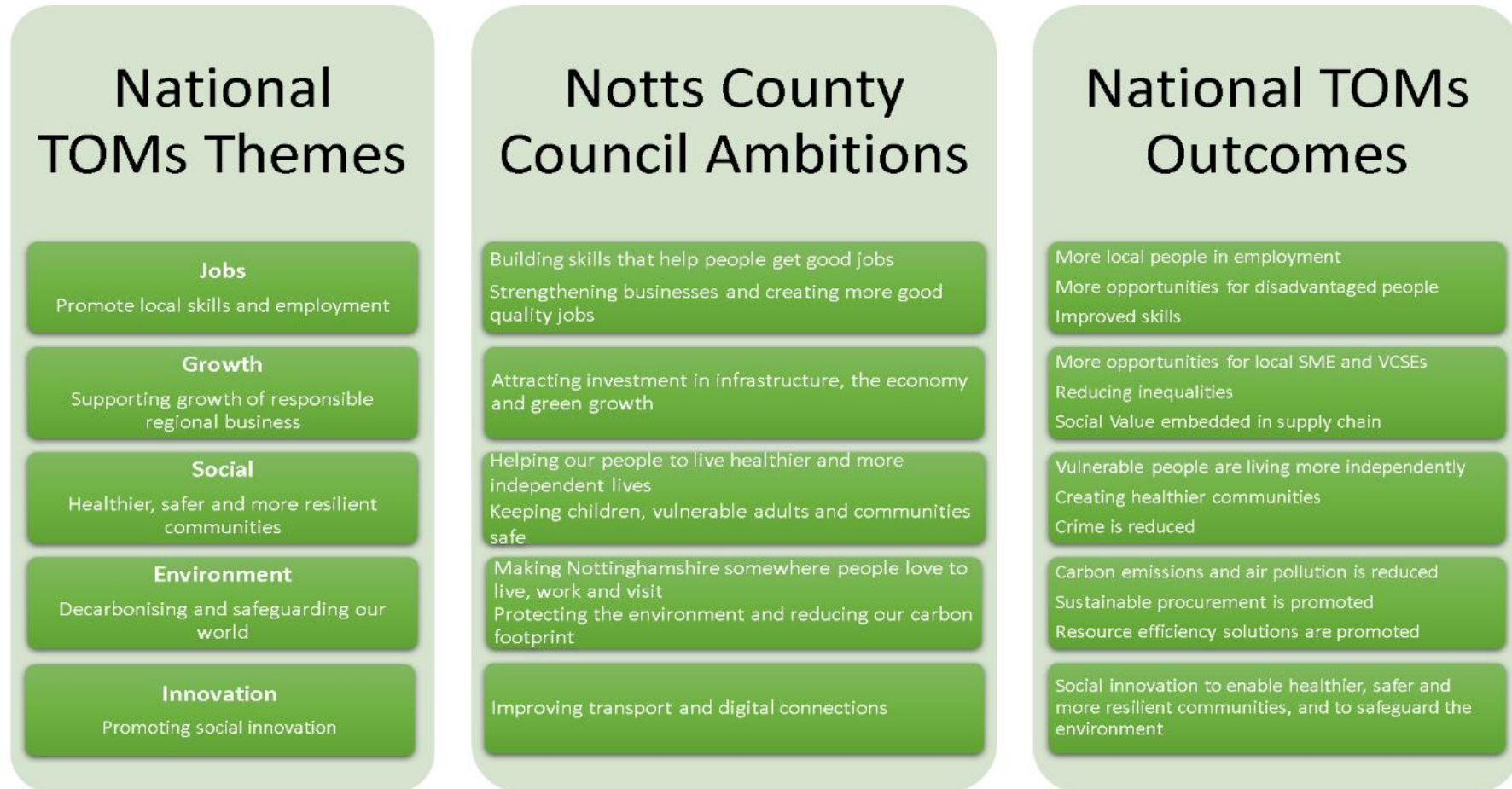
- Promote equity and fairness
- Promote environmental sustainability
- Stimulate spending in the local economy
- Improve health and wellbeing outcomes
- Promote employment and economic sustainability
- Promote participation and engagement

This Policy seeks to:

- i) Establish a clear understanding of what sustainable procurement means for the Council
- ii) Raise awareness and promote the sustainable procurement policy to internal stakeholders
- iii) Promote the sustainable procurement policy to external stakeholders and suppliers through supplier engagement
- iv) Embed good practice in sustainable procurement in our procurement activity
- v) Collaborate with other local partners to improve knowledge and understanding of sustainable procurement and to seek shared opportunities
- vi) Establish and share key principles for how the council seeks to embed sustainable procurement through our commissioning and procurement activity

Sustainable Procurement Outcomes in Nottinghamshire

Our sustainable procurement pledges are driven by the ambitions outlined in our Council Plan. These are mapped against the National TOMs (Themes, Outcomes Measures) Framework below.



Delivering Sustainable Procurement

Procurement will use a number of 'levers' to deliver sustainability through its commissioning and procurement activity. This will include:

Embedding sustainability within the procurement process

- Ensure we include sustainability requirements as part of the specification
- Ask targeted questions at the Invitation to Tender stage to relevant procurements
- Undertake market engagement prior to major tendering exercises to promote sustainable procurement principles
- Include where appropriate, specific sustainable procurement KPIs linked to the specification of the contract

Addressing Sustainable Procurement through our business with other organisations

- Work with our suppliers to consider the sustainability of their business and the impact on our local area. We will support to identify strategies which could improve sustainability of their service delivery
- Ensure the Council removes any barriers to bidding, especially for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) and Voluntary and Community Sector organisations.
- Support and encourage our partners to have the same level of environmental commitment in their procurement activities - Via, ARC Partnership, Inspire
- Deliver webinars on sustainable procurement designed to inform and encourage our partners, suppliers, and local organisations.

Incorporate sustainable procurement into all our policies and strategies

- Procurement Strategy
- The Nottinghamshire Plan 2021 - 2031
- Corporate Environment Strategy
- Strategic Commissioning Framework
- Offer support to colleagues to understand the Council's vision for sustainable procurement.

Measuring Sustainable Procurement

The Council will measure the amount of sustainable procurement secured in contracts using the LGA Themes Outcomes Measures (TOMs) method to assess sustainable procurement delivery. This is a reporting framework developed by the LGA's National Social Value Taskforce and is a useful tool used by private and public sector organisations to measure sustainable procurement.

Our Commitment

In addressing the key topics of sustainable procurement above, we make the following commitments:

Economic Outcomes:

- Increase the number of organisations offering work experience, internships, apprenticeships
- Supporting SMEs and local business to bid for work in Nottinghamshire
- Support and encourage local spend
- Prepare our children and young people for employment and work within a changing job market, recognising the additional support and experiences we must provide to ensure they have the skills and understanding to succeed
- Support our young people to make a positive move from statutory schooling to post-16 education or training and beyond, with a focus on preparing for adulthood

Social Outcomes:

- Support employment / training opportunities secured through contracts awarded, particularly from disadvantaged groups.
- Promote the safeguarding and welfare of children, young people, and vulnerable adults
- Improving health and wellbeing of residents and employees
- Reduce health inequalities
- Ensure ethical employment practice to employ the highest ethical standards in our own operations and those within our supply chain

Environmental Outcomes:

- Ensure efficient use of resources by minimising waste
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with the provision of the service
- Contribute towards increased biodiversity across Nottinghamshire
- Protect and enhance the natural and built environment

Implementation Plan

	Action	Deliverables	Objective	By When
Phase One	Engage Social Value Portal	Initial meeting with organisation	understand the offer from SV portal, ensure the offer meets the Council's needs. NCC to have a robust management and monitoring system that can measure SV delivery by our suppliers	Approval early July 2022. Sign Contract mid July 2022. Complete onboarding Sept. 2022
		Commitment and approval		
		Engage stakeholders		
		Identify Councils Pilot Projects		
		Onboard Social Value Portal		
		Commence one year pilot		
	Develop Sustainable Procurement policy for NCC	Develop draft policy	guidance and commitment to create consistency and 3-year plan	Jul-22
		Engage stakeholders for feedback		
		Final draft produced		
		Cabinet member approval		
		Implement and share final Policy		
	Monitoring	Manage ongoing account relationship with Social Value Portal contract	ensure we are delivering against the aims of the SV Policy and meeting the needs of the Council	Jul-22
		Establish Social Value Project Group across the Council		Aug-22
		Annual Review of Social Value Policy and delivery against actions		ongoing
Phase Two	Social Value Toolkit	Set up Procurement Core Task and Finish Group	SV considerations are embedded within all the Council contracts at every level	Jun-22
		Update all internal documents and policies to include SV		Sep-22
		Develop templates where required		Dec-22

		Produce a Social Value Toolkit		Apr-23
	Social Value Training	Develop social value basic awareness training	Whole Council understanding of what SV is and our individual responsibilities to the environment and economy, plus more comprehensive ability to assign and monitor social value across our contracts for relevant staff	2023 onwards
		Develop social value training for procurement, commissioners, and contract managers		
		Provide guidance for provider organisations preparing for and giving social value		
	Post Pilot Considerations	Agree threshold for minimum criteria and weighting on all projects	Clarification and tools to manage SV as a Council independently of partner agency	Sept -22
				Spring 2023