



people policies

Healthy and Sustainable Procurement Policy

Healthy and sustainable procurement policy statement

Scope

Bristol City Council frequently procures work, goods and services. The procurement of these items has an impact on our carbon emissions and wider environmental footprint, and on the health of those who live and work in the city. If we want to achieve [our vision](#) for Bristol to be a fair, healthy and sustainable city then we must make sure the suppliers of our work, goods and services operate in a way which promotes equality and uses resources sustainably.

We aim to:

- meet or exceed all [Government Buying Standards \(GBS\)](#) relating to health and sustainability
- encourage and enable suppliers to contribute towards our Climate and Ecological Emergency targets
- help fulfil our ambitions relating to the [One City Food Equality Strategy](#) and Good Food 2030 Framework

To do this, the council will:

- 1 Devise a toolkit of health and sustainability requirements for contracts based on the Government Buying Standards as well as [One City Climate Strategy](#) and [Ecological Emergency Strategy](#) targets.
- 2 Use information on market readiness to categorise each of the health and sustainability requirements as Information Only, Scored or Mandatory within tender processes.
- 3 Update the wording and categorisation of the toolkit of health and sustainability requirements every two years based on

supplier maturity data (or more frequently if appropriate) with the aim of encouraging our supply chain to keep developing.

- 4 Make sure that officers carry out a Proportionality and Relevance Check before starting a tender process to identify key environmental opportunities in higher value contracts.
- 5 Mandate that any health and sustainability requirements from the toolkit that are identified as relevant for the particular contract must be included in any tender specification.
- 6 Make sure that the relevant health and sustainability requirements are embedded into the contract and contract monitoring.
- 7 Move towards measuring the carbon emissions and savings that result from the council's contracts.
- 8 Collaborate with, promote and support the response of local partners and suppliers to the climate and ecological emergency and health inequalities.
- 9 Support the work of events, markets and street trading to implement the food and catering related requirements within the City.
- 10 Ensure a joined up approach to all Council policies as relevant, including the Social Value Policy and Advertising and Sponsorship Policy, as well as the One City Food Equality Strategy.

Annex 1: Health and Sustainability Requirements for Tenders

Subject	Theme	Requirement	Measure	
Office furniture and Buildings	Ecology	Timber must be 100% sustainably sourced, using Forest Stewardship Council certification.	Mandatory	
Parks and gardens	Ecology	All products, services and works procured must comply with the latest version of the Horticultural Code of Practice covering invasive non-native plants.	Mandatory	
Parks and gardens	Waste	All plant containers must be reusable, recyclable or biodegradable.	Mandatory	
Food and catering	Carbon and climate resilience	Offer and encourage uptake of plant-based options. <i>Such as Meat Free Mondays.</i>	Mandatory	
Food and catering	All	Within the Bristol region catering providers will meet Bristol Eating Better Gold Award (BEBA). <i>The provider will have achieved BEBA gold within the first 12 months of the contract.</i>	Mandatory	
Food and catering	All	Within the Bristol region, food and catering providers at markets will achieve Bristol Eating Better Award (BEBA) Bronze and catering providers at both events and street trading sites will be encouraged to achieve BEBA Bronze. <i>Catering outlets within Council-operated markets must have achieved BEBA Bronze prior to the start of the contract.</i>	Mandatory	
Food and catering	All	Catering providers will meet the requirements of at least the Soil Association Food For Life Served Here (FFLSH) silver award or if a food supplier will meet the requirements of the Food For Life Supplier Scheme . <i>The provider must be accredited to the appropriate level within the first 12 months of the contract.</i>	Mandatory if above Procurement threshold	
Cleaning contracts	Waste	Minimise waste and water use, for example by using reusable cloths rather than wipes or reusable containers for cleaning products, whilst delivering cleaning activities within the contract.	Mandatory	

Subject	Theme	Requirement	Measure	
Electrical items	Carbon	Use energy efficient equipment, with a rating of D or above, to deliver the service within the contract.	Mandatory	
Food and catering and laundry	Carbon	Use water efficient equipment and reduce water used, for example a standard sized dishwasher (for up to 14 place settings) volume per cycle should not exceed 8 litres, washer driers 70 and washing machines 45 litres, whilst delivering the contract.	Mandatory	
Parks and gardens	Ecology	Provide a plan to phase out peat as a soil improver in line with the DEFRA timelines of: by 2026– ban on professional uses of peat, with exemptions including growing plug plants, mushroom growing and other ‘plant types or production methods where peat cannot be readily replaced’ and by 2030– ban on all uses of peat, within the first month of the contract.	Mandatory	
Office stationery and printing	Waste	Use Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC) certified and/ or recycled paper in the delivery of the contract. Only use paper meeting neither requirement with specific agreement from the Council.	Mandatory	
Parks and gardens, buildings	Ecology	Provide a plan to minimise pesticide use, outlining alternative methods of grounds management, within the first month of the contract.	Mandatory	
Buildings	Ecology	Downpipes from newly installed guttering to include connecting to a rainwater butt with appropriate overflow to a drain.	Mandatory	
Buildings	Ecology	New bus shelters to include sedum and wildflower rooftop within design. Mandatory unless otherwise approved by the Executive Director of Growth and Regeneration.	Mandatory	
Transport	Carbon	Do you commit to produce a green travel plan applicable to the provision of the Works/Goods/ Services under this contract/framework, which details how vehicle mileage and emissions will be reduced– including how you will encourage sustainable modes of travel, use/aim to use vehicles meeting the emission standards of the Clean Air Zone (CAZ) and prioritise Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs)– within the first six months of the contract?	Scored (in Social Value Evaluation)	
All	Waste	Do commit to produce a waste minimisation plan applicable to the provision of the Works/ Goods/ Services under this contract/framework– with examples of how you will reduce, reuse or recycle more and particular focus on textiles, food, packaging and specific products eg reparability of equipment as applicable - within the first month of the contract?	Scored (in Social Value evaluation)	

Subject	Theme	Requirement	Measure	
All	Carbon	Do you commit to produce a carbon reduction plan applicable to the provision of the Works/Goods/ Services under this contract/framework– with the aim of supporting the Council’s target of being carbon neutral by 2030 and ensure any data used has been collected using the GHG reporting Protocol and scopes 1 and 2 are included as a minimum– within the first month of the contract?	Scored (in Social Value evaluation)	
All	Carbon	Do you commit to providing annual carbon data applicable to the provision of the Works/Goods/ Services under this contract/framework, to the Contract Manager from the start of the contract and as requested, using the BCC Carbon Reporting spreadsheet?	Scored (in Social Value evaluation)	

