

Environmental and Sustainable Purchasing Policy

As a major local business organisation and as part of the wider national HE sector, the University of Hull's procurement decisions have major socio-economic and environmental implications both locally and globally. A policy of sustainable purchasing will aim to mitigate the effects that the University's activities have on its environment.

This policy is to be achieved through the following methods:

- Thoroughly assess the need for the product or service to be purchased.
- Favour products with recycled content or that are recyclable or biodegradable and which conform to recognised environmental standards.
- Consideration of the whole-life cost, energy usage and carbon emissions of the product.
- Consider how products are to be disposed of at the end of their life.
- Ensure that, where appropriate, environmental criteria are used in the award of contracts.
- Suppliers should be able to demonstrate that they have credible documented policies relating to environmental management and wider corporate social responsibility.
- Ensure that suppliers' environmental, social and ethical credentials are, as far as legally practicable, considered in the supplier appraisal process.
- Ensure there are no barriers to entry so that SMEs, local and regional businesses and ethnic minority businesses are encouraged to bid for appropriate work.
- Work with key suppliers to spread sustainable improvements in the supply chain such as making more facilities available for recycling waste products and reducing the amount of packaging and transport miles required.
- Suppliers should comply with all relevant legislation in the countries in which they operate and with all relevant International Labour Organisation conventions.
- Cease trading with suppliers showing persistent disregard for important elements of environmental, social and ethical performance.
- Working in partnership with others such as the Environmental Association of Universities and Colleges (EAUC) and the North Eastern Universities Purchasing Consortium (NEUPC) to improve sustainable purchasing practice.

This policy is consistent with the University's Sustainability Policy and its Carbon Management Plan and shall apply to everyone who specifies and buys goods and services on behalf of the University.