

# Sustainable Procurement Policy Statement

Queen Mary University of London (Queen Mary) is one of the UK's leading research-focused higher education institutions. As a global university, with students from over 170 different nationalities studying with us, the university recognises its privileged position to contribute towards sustainable development through the positive impact made through our education, research and engagement. Queen Mary also recognises its responsibility to incorporate sustainable and responsible procurement principles and practices across all areas of activity.

This Policy Statement sets out our commitments to ensuring goods, services and works at Queen Mary are procured in a way that considers their value on a whole life basis, ensuring that appropriate environmental, social and economic factors are considered during the procurement process. It provides a framework for establishing responsible procurement objectives and targets, and key performance indicators.

Queen Mary's key commitments include:

- Ensure thorough due diligence is applied to all purchases to understand the need and value.
- Ensure all procurement decisions are based on a balance between economic, social and environmental factors, encouraging the active use of value for money and whole life costing methodologies.
- Continue to provide appropriate levels of training and/or awareness in sustainable procurement principles, related legislation and the University's sustainable procurement processes to all dedicated procurement staff, and to other staff procuring goods and services.
- Include sustainable procurement factors in the objectives of key procurement staff.
- Ensure Queen Mary and its suppliers are compliant with relevant current and reasonably foreseeable future legislation (e.g. environmental and Modern Slavery).
- Review, identify and manage sustainable procurement and Modern Slavery risks at all key stages of the procurement process.
- Identify, prevent and mitigate the risks of human rights abuses in the supply chain including forced labour, child labour, or any form of modern slavery and human trafficking.
- Actively encourage supplier selection processes adhere to sustainable policies and practices. Specify, wherever reasonably practicable, carbon reporting and reduction, energy efficiency/saving and the broader use of sustainable materials and products as preferred options.
- Encourage, where possible, the use of suitable local suppliers for goods and services.
- Minimise the amount of waste generated from purchases by agreeing take-back schemes or alternative solutions with suppliers, as well as adequate repair and maintenance support for purchased goods. This includes considering lease or circular economy models where appropriate as an alternative to upfront 'purchases' to maximise the life of products.
- Reduce the number of delivery vehicles entering and leaving site, by encouraging the use of contracted suppliers and scheduled aggregated deliveries.

The Sustainable Procurement Group will act as the primary governance body to direct, control and monitor our ongoing sustainable procurement performance. The Director of Procurement and Head of Environmental Sustainability have collaborative responsibility for the development and implementation of this policy.

Approved by:

Bahar Shahin MCIPS (Chartered)

Director of Procurement

19<sup>th</sup> September 2024



Please visit our Sustainability website for more information.