



DEVON &  
SOMERSET  
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

# Social Value Guidance

(Procurement Act 2023)

NFCC Emergency Response Vehicle  
Framework

DS478-24

## Introduction

The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 and National Procurement Policy Statements places a requirement on organisations awarding contracts to consider the **economic, environmental and social benefits** of their approaches to procurement and how procurement may secure those improvements.

In 2015 the United Nations set 17 global goals (known as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)), which aims to address various global challenges, including poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace, and justice.



## Framework Level

The Framework will focus on the following government missions stated within NPPS through Social Value and linked to SDGs, which will be monitored through the Social Value Action Plan and reported throughout the Framework on at least an annual basis:

NPPS Missions	Focus	Action	Related Sustainable Development Goals
<b>Make Britain a clean energy superpower</b>	Reduce CO2 emissions	Develop, implement and maintain a Carbon Reduction Plan that includes a net zero carbon target and year on year carbon reduction targets (as a percentage). The plan shall be reviewed and updated no less frequent than annually.  The plan shall concentrate on the organisations scope 1 and 2 emissions, but	SDG13 – Climate Action

		the organisation may optionally include their scope 3 emissions.	
	Ensure responsible waste management	<p>Implement and maintain a Waste Reduction and Management Plan that applies the Waste Hierarchy and aims to reduce its organisations waste, reduce the percentage of waste going to landfill and use resources more efficiently.</p> <p>The plan shall be reviewed and updated no less frequently than annually. The Supplier shall report the impact on the organisations waste as a result of the plan on an annual basis.</p>	SDG13 – Climate Action
<b>Kickstart economic growth</b>	Support SMEs	<p>Consider your supply chain and the percentage of SMEs and the level of business you conduct.</p> <p>Develop, implement and maintain a plan of how to support SMEs through the Framework.</p>	SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities
	Protect and mitigate against modern slavery	<p>Implement and maintain a modern slavery policy that is reviewed and updated no less frequently than annually.</p> <p>To provide evidence of how the Supplier ensures that modern slavery isn't happening in their workplace or throughout the supply chain.</p> <p>For suppliers with under £36 million turnover, you must complete the <a href="#">Modern Slavery Toolkit</a> and share the results with the Framework Owners with any improvements required.</p>	SDG1 – No Poverty
<b>Breaking down barriers to opportunity</b>	Addressing the skill gaps and facilitating access to training and other development opportunities	To provide evidence of how the Supplier addresses the skill gaps and the number and type of training opportunities.	SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities
<b>Take back our streets</b>	Encouraging suppliers to recruit from groups that struggle to access employment opportunities	To provide evidence of how you recruit from groups that struggle to access employment.	SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

The following link provides all questions asked as part of the framework – [Part 3 Framework Questions](#).

## Further Competitions

Contracting Authorities that are not 'In-Scope organisations' for PPNs, can either choose to:

- a) use the due diligence carried out by the Framework for information purpose only and remove Social Value from your assessment criteria, or
- b) apply a weighting to Social Value for your assessment criteria and specific questions for your requirements.

**It is encouraged for Contracting Authorities to apply at least 10% weighting within their Further Competition.**

**All In-Scope Organisations must ensure they follow the Social Value Guidance and apply 10% within your Further Competition. Please review [PPN 002](#) and [PPN 003](#) for further guidance.**

To form your assessment criteria for Social Value, you may want to use the SDGs to form part of their requirements. The relevant SDGs that can be mapped against economic, environmental and social benefits for fleet with examples can be found in Appendix A.

For Further Competition Fire and Rescue Services are encouraged to:

- Ask the suppliers different social value questions to the Framework. [Appendix B](#) provides a range of questions as inspiration for your Further Competition Social Value questions.
- Ask the suppliers to provide a Social Value Action Plan relevant to their requirements (to allow the FRS to include within their contract)
- Ensure the social value questions are proportionate, relevant to the Goods/Services being procured and the suppliers awarded on the lot.

If a Contracting Authority chooses to use the Framework due diligence on Social Value and not include any Social Value questions in their Further Competition, the Contracting Authority shall request the Social Value progress for each supplier on the relevant lot for their Further Competition from [procurement@dsfire.gov.uk](mailto:procurement@dsfire.gov.uk). **The Contracting Authority must ensure this information is kept confidential and not shared to anyone else.**

## Appendix A – Fleet SDGs and Examples

These SDGs have been mapped against economic, environmental and social benefits for fleet and some examples of what good looks like as follows:

<b>Economic</b>	Skill Development & Experience (SDG3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apprenticeships programme in place or commitment to hire apprenticeships as part of the contract.</li> <li>• Apprenticeships and internship programmes that result in a guaranteed job offer.</li> <li>• Short-term work placement programme available in the organisation.</li> <li>• Variety of skills development programmes made available to different staffing levels in the organisation.</li> <li>• Support for educational attainment relevant to the contracting including training schemes that address skill gaps and result in recognised qualifications.</li> <li>• Delivering training to schools, colleges and universities.</li> <li>• Developing initiatives such as mentoring, CV advice, mock interviews, careers advice, learning and development.</li> </ul>
	Supply Chain Diversity, Capacity & Resilience (SDG9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstratable evidence of a diverse supply chain inclusive of SMEs, VCSEs, Start-ups, new businesses etc.</li> <li>• Engagement with local SMEs and VCSEs.</li> <li>• Demonstrates collaboration throughout the supply chain and a fair and reasonable approach to working with supply chain partners.</li> <li>• Advertising supply chain opportunities openly to ensure they are accessible to a diverse range of businesses.</li> <li>• Structuring the supply chain selection process in a way that ensures fairness (anti-corruption).</li> <li>• Clearly identify the opportunities to grow the diversity of the supply chain.</li> <li>• Prompt payment programmes for the supply chain.</li> </ul>
	Creating Positive Local Economy Impact (SDG8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commitment to engage with local suppliers.</li> <li>• Engagement activities in the local area before awarding any subcontractors.</li> <li>• Process of engaging and supporting local suppliers.</li> <li>• Commitment to prioritise local suppliers and local workers in the delivery of the contract.</li> <li>• Offers opportunities for business creation and growth within the supply chain.</li> <li>• Social value/sustainability commitment which add value to the local economy and community.</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental</b>	Fighting Climate Change (SDG13)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion of low carbon travel options (including staff and distribution network).</li> <li>• Promotion of virtual interactions to reduce travel including technology and working from home initiatives.</li> <li>• Investment and development of products and technology to reduce carbon emissions.</li> <li>• Promotion of environmentally friendly vehicles to customers.</li> <li>• Use of Electrical Vehicles and Ultra Low Emission Vehicles and decarbonising Fleet.</li> <li>• Clear mapping between business strategy and environmental strategy.</li> </ul>
	Waste Management (SDG15)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment and monitoring of the waste management processes of subcontractors and the supply chain.</li> <li>• Acknowledgement and demonstrated knowledge of relevant legislation, regulation and standards.</li> <li>• Regular site waste management audits.</li> <li>• Use of site waste management plans in operational activity.</li> <li>• Training and education to influence behaviour to reduce waste.</li> <li>• Ensuring organisation wide awareness of the company's environmental policy.</li> <li>• Separation of waste streams within buildings.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outline assessments of the lifecycle of products to assess the impact they have on the environment.</li> </ul>
	Responsible Resource Consumption / Efficient (SDG12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable energy initiatives - generation of own energy.</li> <li>• Focus of recycled / recyclable materials throughout the supply chain.</li> <li>• Working with the supply chain on reuse and recycling initiatives.</li> <li>• Links to established markets for refurbished equipment and charitable reuse organisations.</li> <li>• Acknowledgement of Producer Responsibility Obligations.</li> <li>• Use of environmentally friendly materials in the production and manufacturing process.</li> <li>• Baselining and benchmarking of energy and water use.</li> <li>• Providing energy efficient products (e.g. EPEAT, Energy Star, Energy Efficiency).</li> </ul>

Social	Workforce Equality & Diversity (SDG10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diversity and social inclusion activity reported at a senior level and monitored throughout the supply chain.</li> <li>• Mechanisms embedded in organisational process to support disadvantaged groups.</li> <li>• Engagement and training with staff on Equality &amp; Diversity in the workplace.</li> <li>• Organisation is open and transparent on gender pay gap information</li> <li>• Open, transparent, and inclusive recruitment policies and procedures embedded throughout the organisation.</li> <li>• Demonstratable actions to increase the representation of disabled people in the workforce.</li> <li>• Support for disabled people in developing new skills relevant to the contract including training schemes.</li> <li>• Equality and diversity champions in the workplace.</li> <li>• Communicating clear expectation of individual responsibility.</li> <li>• Making appropriate adjustments to accommodate any special requirements when a protected characteristic is known.</li> <li>• Encouraging an open and honest culture which values the differences between individuals.</li> <li>• Advertising on job boards for those with disabilities.</li> <li>• Measures in place to reduce barriers to securing more jobs for disabled people in the contract workforce.</li> <li>• Reporting of equality and diversity statistics in the workforce.</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of equality and diversity policies.</li> </ul>
	Improving Health & Wellbeing (SDG4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness sessions for staff on the importance of physical and mental wellbeing in the workplace.</li> <li>• Training for Line Managers on how to identify mental health issues, offer support and build resilience.</li> <li>• Support materials made available and circulated to all staff.</li> <li>• Mental Health and Wellbeing plan in place for the organisation with action plan and targets.</li> <li>• Employee Assistance Programmes available to all staff.</li> <li>• Wellbeing champions embedded throughout the organisation.</li> <li>• Mental health first aiders in the organisation.</li> <li>• Toolbox talks undertaken with staff regularly on physical and mental wellbeing.</li> <li>• Provision of free health insurance for staff.</li> <li>• Posters and materials signposting staff to where they can receive support.</li> <li>• Offering flexible working where appropriate.</li> <li>• Communication and promotion of a wellbeing police throughout the organisation.</li> <li>• Open door policy for staff to voice any concerns.</li> <li>• Holding mental health awareness session, workshops and/or events.</li> </ul>
	Community Outreach (SDG11)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteering programme for work in the community is in place with evidence of activities.</li> <li>• Partnership with local charities/non-profits to support community initiatives.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Company plan or strategy to create healthier, safer and more resilient communities.</li> <li>• Initiatives to promote road safety and public safety in the community.</li> <li>• Using experience to educate driving behaviour in the community.</li> <li>• Delivering driving awareness and refresher courses to promote more capable driving on the road.</li> <li>• Links and partnership working with local charities and community groups</li> <li>• Providing grants and support to charities and other volunteering programmes.</li> <li>• Providing skills and work experience for people in the community.</li> <li>• Food donations to local foodbanks.</li> <li>• Fundraising activities in the organisation for local charities.</li> <li>• Donations of clothing, toiletries and other essentials to homeless shelters / charities and other disadvantaged groups.</li> <li>• Promoting paid work initiatives for volunteers or extra days annual leave.</li> <li>• Initiatives to help vulnerable people to live more independently.</li> </ul>
	<p>Protection &amp; Mitigation Against Modern Slavery (SDG8)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modern slavery strategy embedded in the organisation.</li> <li>• Ensure that commitment to delivering social benefits and upholding human rights is reflected in impact reports, modern slavery statement and ethical procurement policy.</li> <li>• Training conducted with staff on anti-slavery and ethical procurement.</li> <li>• Supplier due diligence and engagement on mitigations for modern slavery conducted.</li> <li>• Training and development programmes for supply chain on modern slavery.</li> <li>• Prioritisation of suppliers who have embedded sustainable and ethical practices.</li> <li>• Procedures and measures in place to identify signs of force or bonded labour in the organisation and supply chain.</li> <li>• Implementation and enforcement of effective system and controls to ensure no form of slavery is taking place in the organisation or supply chain.</li> <li>• Clear reporting structure for staff to report concerns regarding modern slavery.</li> <li>• Publication of a supplier code of conduct to the supply chain.</li> </ul>

## Appendix B - Question Bank

<b>Economic</b>	Please outline the opportunities for work experience and other similar activities that will be made available under this contract including any: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apprenticeships</li> <li>• Training schemes</li> <li>• Work placements</li> <li>• Skills development for staff and the local community.</li> </ul>
	The Service requires 25% of supplier spend on this contract to be made with SMEs. Please provide a detailed plan of how you will ensure you hit this target within the first year of the contract.
	Please detail the measures you will undertake to ensure you have a diverse range of suppliers when delivering this contract including how you will ensure your supplier selection process is structured to ensure fairness and encourage participation.
	Please describe how you will create employment and training opportunities in the local area particularly for those who face barriers to employment such as prison leavers and those who are located in deprived areas.
<b>Environmental</b>	Please describe how your organisation will reduce your negative environmental impacts in the delivery of this contract. Include as part your response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your approach to sustainable production and consumption</li> <li>• How you will reduce your carbon footprint and improve air quality</li> <li>• How you will keep up to date with developing legislation and technologies.</li> </ul>
	Please explain how you will ensure your organisation and supply chain will keep up to date and adhere to environmental protection measures including all relevant environmental legislation and guidelines including how you will contribute to the Service achieving the Government 2030 net zero target.
	Please describe how you will develop your products and services delivered under this contract to be more environmentally friendly and to reduce the output of harmful emissions.
	Please detail the energy minimising initiatives that will be implemented to help the reduction of the annual energy consumption in your organisation when delivering this contract.
<b>Social</b>	Please outline the positive social impacts your organisation will deliver to the Force area through this contract. Include as part of your response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How you will deliver social inclusion and reduce inequalities in your organisation and supply chains.</li> <li>• The community development initiatives that will be undertaken</li> </ul>
	Please describe the social impacts your organisation will consider in the delivery of this contract and how you will ensure your organisation contributes to the following priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating fair employment and development opportunities for all.</li> <li>• Creating and developing strong, healthy communities.</li> <li>• Ensuring staff physical and mental wellbeing.</li> </ul>
	Please describe the safeguards and mitigations you have in place to reduce the likelihood and impacts of Modern Slavery in both your organisation and supply chain. Include as part of your response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The awareness and training that will be undertaken.</li> <li>• The audits/management protocols in place within the supply chain.</li> </ul>