

Introduction to Sustainable Procurement

What is Sustainable Procurement?

¥ Ensure that the procurement (purchasing?) of goods and services has as little adverse impact (and as great a beneficial impact) on people and the environment as possible

What does Sustainable Procurement mean in practice?

¥ Don't Buy

- Defer renewal
- Reduce volumes
- Repair
- Recycle

¥ But what's good for the environment and society

- Sustainable sources
- Supporting livelihoods
- Doesn't exploit people
- Can be easily recycled and not a burden to the waste stream
- Low whole life costs

Benefits of Sustainable Procurement?

- ⌘ **Reduce costs – especially of energy, materials, stocks and waste**
- ⌘ **Access well managed reliable supply sources**
- ⌘ **Safeguard your reputation, reduce risks**
- ⌘ **Keep ahead of new taxes and legal obligations**
- ⌘ **Meet increasing expectations of customers, investors, and staff**
- ⌘ **Develop new business opportunities**

How to put it into place (1)

- ≠ **Make it part of the core management process (eg work plans, quality systems)**
- ≠ **Embed it into the culture**
- ≠ **Put in place a policy and an implementation plan**
- ≠ **Involve staff fully**
- ≠ **Re-design procurement procedures**
- ≠ **Start with a focus on specific categories or parts of an organisation**

Building into the procurement process

Procurement Stage

Is purchase needed?

Product specification

Creating suppliers list

Evaluating tenders

Contract management

Sustainability Requirements

Reduce demand, use 2nd hand

Include whole life costs , use eco-label criteria,

Check sustainability policies and performance

Give weight to sustainability issues in decision

Support suppliers to improve their

sustainability performance

Further Information

See the Canny Buyer web site

www.cannybuyer.com