

Sustainable Procurement at SOAS University of London

Procurement at SOAS is devolved, meaning staff are directly responsible for buying the products and services needed to support their Directorate.

A central, professional, procurement team provide procurement advice and support to budget holders and end users throughout the institution.

The team work closely with a Head of Sustainability who is shared between SOAS and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

In line with our procurement policy our objectives are as follows:

- To provide guidance, training, and communication to staff to ensure economic, social and environmental considerations are made throughout the procurement life cycle.
- To ensure our terms and conditions of purchase and our standard procurement templates include appropriate references to sustainable procurement matters.
- To provide, as required or requested, category specific guidance on sustainable procurement matters relevant to particular industries, for example IT, Catering or Construction.
- To embed Social Value into all relevant tenders.
- To update our Modern Slavery Statement annually and consistently consider modern slavery risks in the supply chain.
- To ensure we understand the total cost of ownership for all goods and services procured, taking into consideration value for money and sustainability in its broadest sense.
- To consider waste and energy efficiency in all procurement exercises.
- To be mindful at all times of our Net Zero strategy and to work with our suppliers to consider carbon emissions (Scopes 1,2 and 3) in all of our contracts.
- To ensure that stakeholders understand the importance of recognising equal opportunities as well as actively practicing inclusivity and diversity in relation to commercial activity.
- To maintain our Living Wage accreditation.
- To proactively consider diversity in our supply chain; Making it easy for all potential suppliers to have access to opportunities and encouraging them to provide innovative and alternative solutions.
- To annually review our procurement policy and these objectives