

Sustainable Procurement at SOAS, University of London

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

A central professional procurement team, consisting of a Head of Procurement and Buyer, provide strategic and operational procurement and contract management 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, Birkbeck and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

A formal sustainable procurement policy is in development. Our objectives however are as follows:

- To provide guidance, training and communication to staff and academics to ensure economic, social and environmental considerations are made prior to and during the procurement of any goods or services
- To ensure our terms and conditions of purchase and our standard procurement templates include appropriate references to sustainable procurement matters.
- To provide regular category specific guidance on sustainable procurement matters relevant to particular industries, for example IT, Catering or Construction.
- To embed Social Value into all tenders above the thresholds set by The Public Contracts Regulations.
- To update our Modern Slavery Statement annually and actively consider modern slavery risks in the supply chain.
- To ensure that products and services are as waste free and energy efficient as feasible.
- To be mindful at all times of our [Net Zero strategy](#) and to work with our suppliers to consider carbon efficiency 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 and make it easy for all potential suppliers to have access to opportunities.
- To annually review our sustainable procurement policy and these objectives.