



# Public sector guidance on the procurement of sustainable products

**Practical, first-step advice for  
overcoming barriers to procuring  
sustainable products, with a  
focus on re-use, re-manufacture  
and recycled content.**

February 2021

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# Contents

# 1.0 Introduction: Sustainable procurement

Sustainable procurement is 'the process whereby organisations meet their needs for goods, services, works and utilities in a way that achieves value for money on a whole life basis in terms of generating benefits not only to the organisation, but also to society and the economy, whilst minimising damage to the environment.'<sup>1</sup>

Wales has set an ambitious low-carbon target, to reduce country emissions by at least 45% by 2030. To enable us to meet this 2030 target, we need to develop and implement actions now.

To support this, ambitious targets have also been set for decarbonising the public sector; to be carbon neutral by 2030. The Welsh public sector spends approximately £6bn each year on procured goods and services. Influencing the way that goods and services are purchased by public bodies therefore has significant potential to improve the economic, social and environmental impacts of activities.

To achieve this low-carbon pathway, we must accelerate our journey towards the circular economy, and the flow of materials is central to this. The Welsh Government has set a target of 70% recycled content of all wastes by 2025, increasing to 80% by 2030. By using levers such as public procurement to maximum effect, we can move away

from those materials with the highest carbon footprint and ensure that re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content goods are considered first.

Sustainable procurement impacts: human rights, labour practices, fair and profitable operating practices and **protecting the environment**. Protecting the environment explicitly covers the prevention of pollution, **sustainable resource use**, climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity and restoration of natural habitats.

Sustainable resource use can be achieved by procuring, re-usable, re-used or re-manufactured products, and products made from recycled content. This has knock-on benefits of reducing climate change impacts, avoiding landfill and stimulating the circular economy. It is an effective way of contributing to your organisation's sustainable development objectives and targets, as well as promoting innovation in product and service offerings.

'**Re-usability potential**' is the ability to use a product several times, either in its current, upgraded, or re-purposed form, in order to extend the useful life of the item through repair, refurbishment or re-manufacture.

A '**re-used product**' is defined as a product which has already had one or more prior uses.

A '**re-manufactured product**' is one that has been rebuilt to the specifications of a new product.

A '**recycled content product**' contains a percentage of recycled material.

<sup>1</sup> [Wales Procurement Policy Statement, 2015](#)

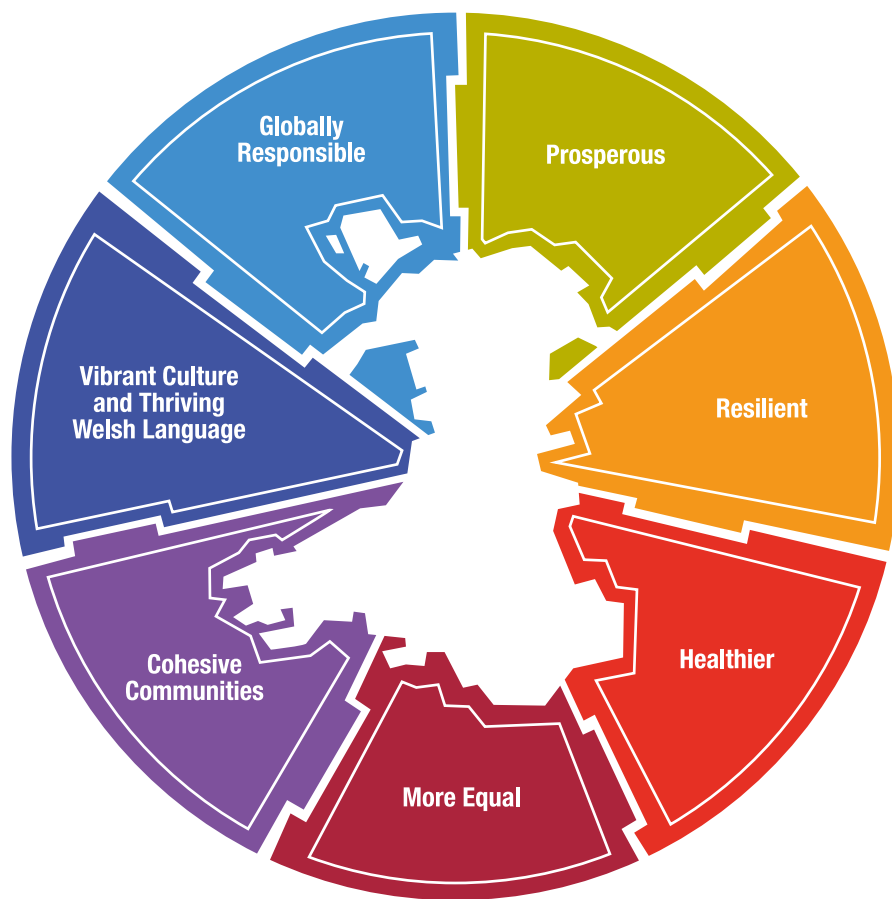
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Increasingly, public bodies and planning authorities are setting requirements for the use of:

- new products which have been designed to be re-used multiple times and therefore have high re-usability potential;
- existing products that have been used before, and therefore reduce the need for new products to be made;
- products that have been re-manufactured to the specifications of a new product; or
- products which have been manufactured with a percentage of recycled content.

This guidance advises public procurers in Wales on practical steps you can take to incorporate sustainable products into your procurement strategy, which can demonstrate organisational commitment to sustainability without increased cost or risk. The information provided will help you to overcome barriers to procuring these products and contribute more to your organisation's sustainability goals.





Well-being goals: Source - Welsh Government

These practical steps relate to the goals set out in the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WFG Act)**<sup>2</sup>. These include:

- **A Prosperous Wales** – fair and local procurement;
- **A Globally Responsible Wales** – supply chains and efficient use of resources; and
- **A Resilient Wales** – using natural resources: ‘Source reused / recycled items across your estate (furniture, stationery, electronics, paint, flooring etc.) using local social enterprise suppliers where possible.’

The Act puts in place a ‘sustainable development principle’ which tells public bodies how to go about meeting their duty under the Act. These five ‘ways of working’ include long term, prevention, integration, collaboration, and involvement. Procurement decisions underpinned by the WFG Act goals

and ways of working can result in demonstrable positive outcomes and help to improve the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales.

This guide has been designed for anyone involved in specifying and / or procuring products. It will help you to:

- understand, identify and relate to the common barriers that are preventing your organisation from procuring products that are re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured and / or made from recycled content;
- determine practical steps to overcome the barriers identified, and enable the procurement of more sustainable products; and
- influence others (both within and outside your organisation) to realise that these products and services are viable and beneficial.

<sup>2</sup> [Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#)

# 2.0 Main barriers

Seven key barrier 'themes' about procuring re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content products were identified during workshops held with public procurers from across Wales. The main perceptions of barriers to sustainable procurement are based on either material availability or procurement processes. Figure 1 shows the themes aligned against the ISO 20400:2017 Standard for Sustainable Procurement.

A lack of awareness about re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content products, their availability, quality and cost accounts for themes 2, 3, 5 and 6. Themes 1, 4 and 7 indicate barriers to procurement processes; for example, policies and leadership hindering the inclusion of relevant specifications in tenders. The practical advice below will help to implement measures to overcome these barriers.

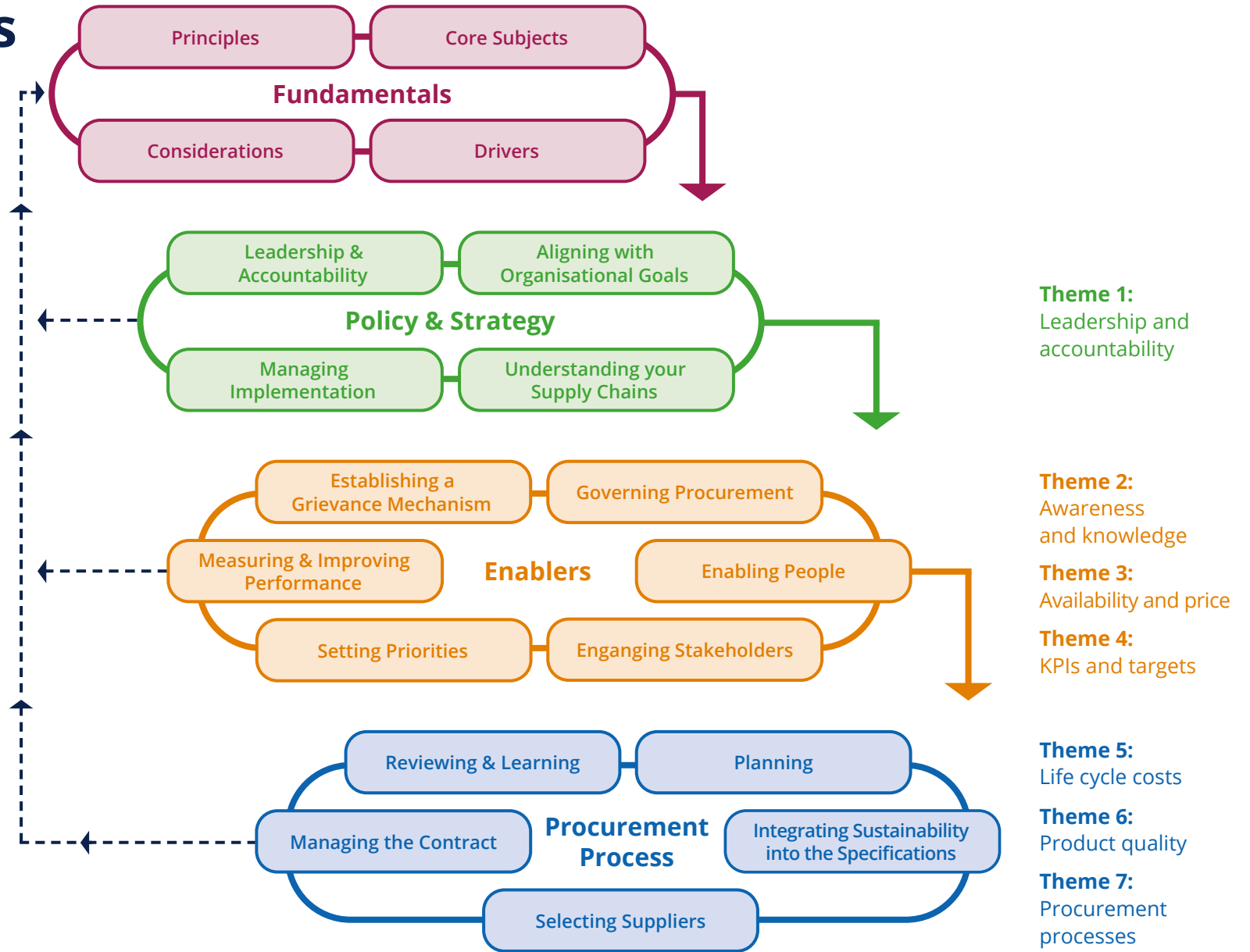


Figure 1: Source - ISO 20400:2017 Standard for Sustainable Procurement

## 3.0 Benefits of procuring sustainable products

Including re-usability potential, re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content products within procurement processes can create multiple benefits for public bodies in Wales.

### These include:

- recognisable leadership and direction on sustainability;
- improved value-for-money / whole life cost, also referred to as the Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) assessments, linked to sustainability impacts;
- procurement contributing directly to organisational sustainability targets and WFG Act goals, the four dimensions of well-being (social, environmental, economic and cultural), and organisational well-being objectives;
- clearer and more consistent tender processes with respect to sustainability;
- greater staff knowledge, competence and empowerment;
- the environmental aspects of sustainability given equal importance as the financial elements in procurement decisions;
- more suppliers engaging with sustainability targets as they realise the benefits;
- greater opportunities for Welsh suppliers to engage;
- reduced carbon footprint of public procurement organisations; and
- reduced supply chain GHG emissions across the entire economy, stimulating more suppliers to invest in low carbon goods and services.

Individual actions under each of the procurement process 'themes' are important to overcome barriers to procuring sustainable products. However, the most effective way of changing procurement practice is to employ a combination of co-ordinated actions across all these elements of procurement.

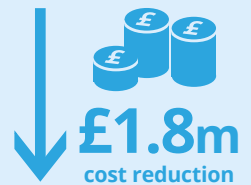
### CASE STUDY

#### Bangor University – sustainable procurement as standard

Since 2015, **Bangor University** has no longer produced a separate Sustainable Procurement Policy but instead incorporates sustainability objectives into the procurement process as standard.

Additionally, the Corporate Procurement Team contributes to the university's Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan.

Since this change, the university has seen a reduction in procurement-related carbon emissions of 0.8% (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) and a cost reduction of £1.8 million.



## 4.0 Practical actions to overcome the barriers

This section details practical actions that can be taken to overcome barriers to procuring re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content products, within each of the seven themes.

You should choose to implement actions across a range of themes, which are most relevant to your organisation.

Several case studies have been included to demonstrate where organisations have successfully implemented the procurement of re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content products.



### 4.1 Theme 1: Leadership and accountability

Having clear leadership and accountability is imperative to drive forward policies, initiatives and sustainability.

**Actions to overcome barriers here include:**

- **Drivers:** Discuss, agree and share your organisation's reasons for procuring sustainably.
- **Policy:** Enhance organisational policies to clearly state the sustainability outcomes that procurement can deliver and why they are important. Specifically include requirements for procuring re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content products.
- **Culture and communications:** Encourage Senior Leadership and / or designate Sustainability Champions to refer to your organisation's sustainability objectives, targets, actions and progress in all messaging.
- **Accountability:** Include relevant and specific sustainability objectives in the Senior Leadership team's personal development plans and performance reviews and assessment of progress against these.



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## 4.2 Theme 2: Awareness and knowledge

Without first-hand experience, many buyers will have limited knowledge or awareness regarding product re-usability, re-used, re-manufactured or recycled content products.

Suitable training and professional development enables employees to fulfil their roles more effectively. It gives them confidence and empowers them to include sustainable principles within their tenders.

Designating Sustainability Champions to lead on training and mentoring will help to facilitate successful understanding and prioritisation of sustainable procurement throughout your organisation and spark a positive culture change. This could be someone who is already responsible for WFG Act or corporate social responsibility (CSR) in your organisation, or someone who is passionate about driving sustainability.

Effective training encourages open competition and the prospect of receiving value-for-money responses from suppliers. Additionally, the clarity of sustainability requirements described within tenders is improved, and anecdotal evidence suggests that this results in a better response rate from suppliers.

By overcoming knowledge and awareness barriers, there is a higher likelihood that procurement will contribute to your organisation's sustainability targets and achievement of the WFG Act goal: *A Globally Responsible Wales*<sup>3</sup>.

### Actions to overcome this barrier include:

- **Training:** Increase employees' knowledge and competence through direct training, on-the-job support and guidance.
- **Culture:** Foster a culture of embedding sustainability into all aspects of procurement, driven by leadership and organisational goals.
- **Prioritisation:** Develop a better understanding of which type of product or service is suitable for each application. Some products will be suitable for re-use instead of single-use, some will already be available for re-use and some products will have been re-manufactured or manufactured using a percentage of recycled content.

- **Knowledge transfer:** Develop and maintain an online hub or learning network to share sustainable procurement resources, life cycle analysis data sources and best practice case studies.

### Example hubs include:

- [European Commission – Green Public Procurement Criteria](#)
- [ISO 20400](#)
- [UN Environment Programme](#)

### Example resources for criteria and training include:

- [European Commission – Green Public Procurement \(GPP\)](#)
- [Government Buying Standards \(GBS\)](#)
- [The Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply \(CIPS\)](#)

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<sup>3</sup> Journey to A Globally Responsible Wales

### 4.3 Theme 3: Availability and price

Engagement with procurers revealed that there is a strong perception that there are not enough re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content products available. However, the range of case studies within this guide shows that this is not always a problem.

Ensuring the procurement of re-usable products will deliver whole life cycle cost savings. It will also help to ensure that re-used products are available to procure in the future.

Undertaking the actions below will result in a better understanding of what the market can provide and will lead to increased variety and competition.

A direct benefit is that supply chains will respond and upskill accordingly, creating more contract opportunities in line with the WFG Act goal: *A Prosperous Wales*. This call for re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content products will drive the market to a more circular economy.

#### Actions to overcome these barriers include:

- **Research:** Undertake market research and engagement to understand suppliers' ability to meet buyers' sustainability objectives for re-use, re-usability potential, re-manufacture

and recycled content (for example, via procurement platforms such as Sell2Wales).

- **Engagement:** Support Welsh buyers and suppliers to improve their competence on sustainability, specifically for re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content products (for example, through the Supply Chain Sustainability School and 'Meet the Buyer' events).
- **Collaboration:** Encourage collaboration to reach technical re-usability, re-use, re-manufacture and recycled content goals more quickly.
- **Process:** Make the procurement process straightforward for suppliers to include re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content products. Consider increasing the weighting placed on sustainability when scoring tenders, to encourage suppliers to provide answers to questions asked.

### CASE STUDY

#### Public Health Wales – sustainable office refit

During 2016, **Public Health Wales** relocated from several smaller offices to one larger office and transferred around 500 members of staff.

They took a sustainable approach to refitting their new premises; procuring as much re-used and re-manufactured equipment, furnishings and flooring as possible.

The tender brief stipulated the need to combine existing, re-used and re-manufactured items as a core requirement, as well as considering the WFG Act.

As a result, 41 tonnes of waste was diverted from landfill and approximately 134 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e was avoided.

**134**  
tCO<sub>2</sub>e avoided



#### 4.4 Theme 4: Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and targets

Without measurement, the sustainability of procurement cannot be guaranteed. To measure, you must first establish a baseline for your performance.

When you set meaningful KPIs and targets against your baseline, changes can be identified, and improvements made. By setting consistent KPIs and targets on re-usability, re-use, re-manufacture and recycled content, public procurers can demonstrate a clear and evidence-led contribution to the organisation's sustainability targets and WFG Act objectives, linked directly to their supply chain.

#### Actions to overcome barriers to this theme include:

- **Prioritisation:** Map the WFG Act goals and targets to the organisation's spend and impacts to see where procurement can have the largest contribution to the social, economic, environmental and cultural impact of spending decisions, and record a baseline.
- **Leadership:** Engage other buying organisations to build consistent or standard sustainability objectives, targets and metrics for the supply chain.
- **Measurement:** Set sustainability KPIs and targets linked to WFG Act national indicators for the procurement function, and the WFG Act goal: *A Prosperous Wales*. Map these to the tenders and contract management process.

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## 4.5 Theme 5: Life cycle costs

There are perceptions that re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured or recycled content products can be more expensive than new products, with limited benefit.

Whole life costing / TCO analysis can highlight a significant difference between purchase price and total life cycle costs. For certain asset acquisitions, the capital cost of purchasing an asset can be very different to the ownership costs, and may include hidden costs such as installation, deployment, upgrading and maintenance. By applying a whole life cost / TCO approach, public sector organisations will be able to make more cost-effective purchasing decisions with limited budgets. This approach can also be helpful to identify the point at which owning a product is cheaper than leasing it.

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### CASE STUDY

#### Comparing milk packaging options using whole life costing

In 2019, WRAP Cymru worked with Monmouthshire County Council to review their choice of switching from single-use plastic milk bottles to re-usable glass milk bottles. As part of the review, an alternative option was also investigated – a pergal system, which allows for the bulk storage of milk in a container that fits in a refrigerated dispenser.

A model was built to estimate the carbon and cost impacts associated with each of the three milk containers. Findings revealed that both glass milk bottles and the pergal system offered reduced carbon emissions and lower overall costs.

#### Key Facts:

- Switching from single-use plastic milk bottles to re-usable glass milk bottles eliminated plastic waste and reduced milk waste.
- Less milk wasted meant less milk ordered, which resulted in cost-savings of 39% for the local authority.
- The switch is also estimated to have resulted in a 25% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

An evidence-based approach to evaluating whole life costs will help to improve the procurement process, regardless of whether you are buying:

- a new product and need to consider its re-usability potential;
- an existing product which has already been used;
- a product that has been re-manufactured; or
- a product containing recycled materials.

By using KPIs and targets on re-usability, re-use, re-manufacture and recycled content, public procurers can demonstrate a clear and evidence-led contribution to the organisation's sustainability targets, linked directly to their supply chain.

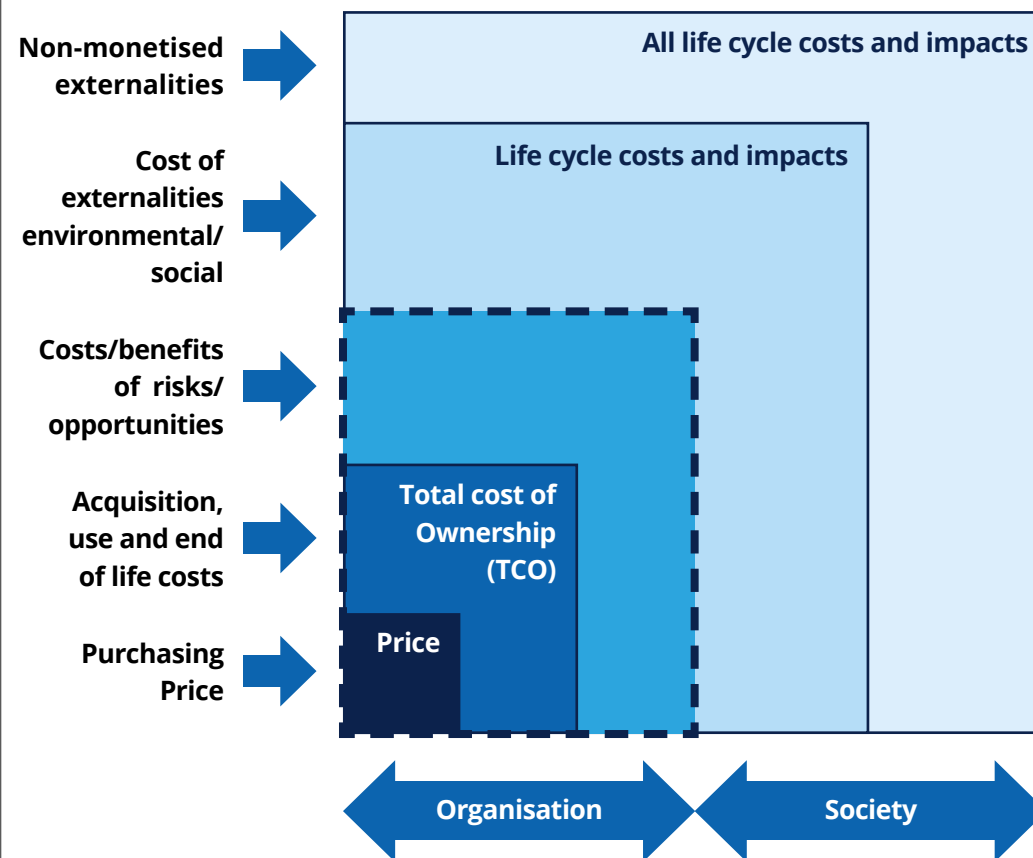
Evaluating whole life costs will help to overcome the perception that re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content products cost more. It can help you to achieve superior value-for-money and should be used to present the business case for change.

Whole life costing will help you to consider how a product is intended to be used and, if appropriate, whether its re-usability could or should be introduced into:

- the specification (i.e. through considerations of durability, repairability and adaptability to use in other settings); or
- the type of procurement selected (i.e. a service or lease contract as opposed to an outright purchase).

This whole life cost and use-based approach will not only help to embed sustainability into your organisation but can also help to achieve the WFG Act goal: *A Prosperous Wales*.

### The evaluation of life cycle costs



After BS ISO 20400:2017

## Actions to overcome this barrier include:

- **Assessment:** Undertake market research as part of category management planning to assess the differences in price between re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content products and their new and virgin material equivalents.
- **Whole life cost:** Make whole life costing mandatory for all tenders considered to be high value and / or high risk.
- **Competence:** Undertake training to improve skills on whole life costing.
- **Engagement:** Require suppliers to provide a whole life costing estimate for their offer, using a standardised approach such as the Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply (CIPS) whole life evaluation, to determine the true economic cost of what you are procuring. Also engage internal colleagues to discuss products' re-usability potential and any logistical considerations.
- **Measurement:** Collect data on product whole life cycle performance. This can be achieved by engaging with outside expert support or requiring potential suppliers to provide this information as part of any tender process. This will allow for benchmarks, case studies, knowledge-sharing and encourage best practice. Track products which have re-usability potential to assess the number of times they can be re-used, and the savings associated with this – both in terms of avoided procurement and disposal costs.

## CASE STUDY

### Scottish Procurement – prioritising circular actions through life cycle mapping

In 2016, **Scottish Procurement** established new framework agreements for the supply of information and communications technology (ICT) devices.

Before releasing the tender, it conducted market engagement and completed a Life Cycle Impact Mapping exercise to identify areas to focus on with regards to environmental and socio-economic risks and opportunities.

As a result, the final tender included technical specifications on energy efficiency, product life cycle, management of delivery fleet, innovative packaging and end-of-life management, with a particular emphasis on the repair, refurbishment and re-use of devices.



#### 4.6 Theme 6: Product quality

Often, the hurdle to using more sustainable products is the perception that single-use products or those made from virgin materials are in some way superior to products that are re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured or contain recycled content.

Recycled paper getting jammed in printers or re-usable cups not holding enough for coffee dispensing machines are often quoted examples.

To overcome this misconception, procurers need the skills to check and verify suppliers' claims that their products are sustainable and just as good as, if not better than, virgin material or single-use alternatives. Buyers also need to understand how users interact with the product in question, to understand the root cause of their concerns. This will support the greater inclusion of re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content products, and help to achieve the WFG Act goal: *A Globally Responsible Wales*.

## CASE STUDY

### Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) – sustainable catering

CCBC worked in partnership with WRAP Cymru to take steps towards reducing the impact of problematic and single-use plastics in its food and drink supply chain.

Key steps included: a review of catering consumables and food packaging spend and specification data; internal dialogue across procurement, catering and waste management teams; consultation with suppliers; and discussions with waste management contractors.

Financial mechanisms, such as charges and levies, were proposed to encourage positive behaviour change and reduce the consumption of products and materials containing plastic. It was found that avoidance, levies on disposables, and the sale of re-usable containers at a profit could help CCBC to offset the cost of more expensive alternatives to single-use plastics.

### Actions to overcome this barrier include:

- **Training:** Staff education on how to use and assess sustainability claims, labels and standards. How to tell 'greenwash' apart from credible sustainability performance and using examples of how it is done successfully.
- **Guidance:** Develop advice for suppliers on how to make clear, credible sustainability claims.
- **Measurement:** Engage suppliers, pre-tender, to trial different re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content products and assess results on re-usability and life expectancy.
- **Consultation:** Speak to those using the products to understand their needs and any issues they face.
- **Best practice:** Gather and publish credible case studies.





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## 4.7 Theme 7: Procurement processes

Often the process of procurement can inhibit the use of sustainable products. Constraints may also be caused by a lack of time or willingness to change.

By simplifying or increasing the flexibility of procurement processes it can become a more effective lever to deliver sustainability goals. This will also improve the clarity and focus of requests made to suppliers. Using an evidence-based approach can provide an impetus for change.

### Actions to overcome this barrier include:

- **Policy:** Make inclusion of re-usability, re-use, re-manufacture and recycled content mandatory in the tendering process. For example, by setting targets on the percentage of spend on re-used products or the percentage of recycled content in products.
- **Innovation:** Request sustainability outcomes in the procurement process and encourage innovation by procuring with well-being in mind.
- **Gateways:** Review your organisation's procurement processes, pipelines and gateways to see where sustainability can be incorporated.

- **Holistic:** Ensure that an approach of value-for-money and whole life costing is used.
- **Measurement:** Include verifiable sustainability requirements in award and contract management, linked to the WFG Act goal: *A Globally Responsible Wales*, and actively monitor supplier performance within the contract management process.

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### CASE STUDY

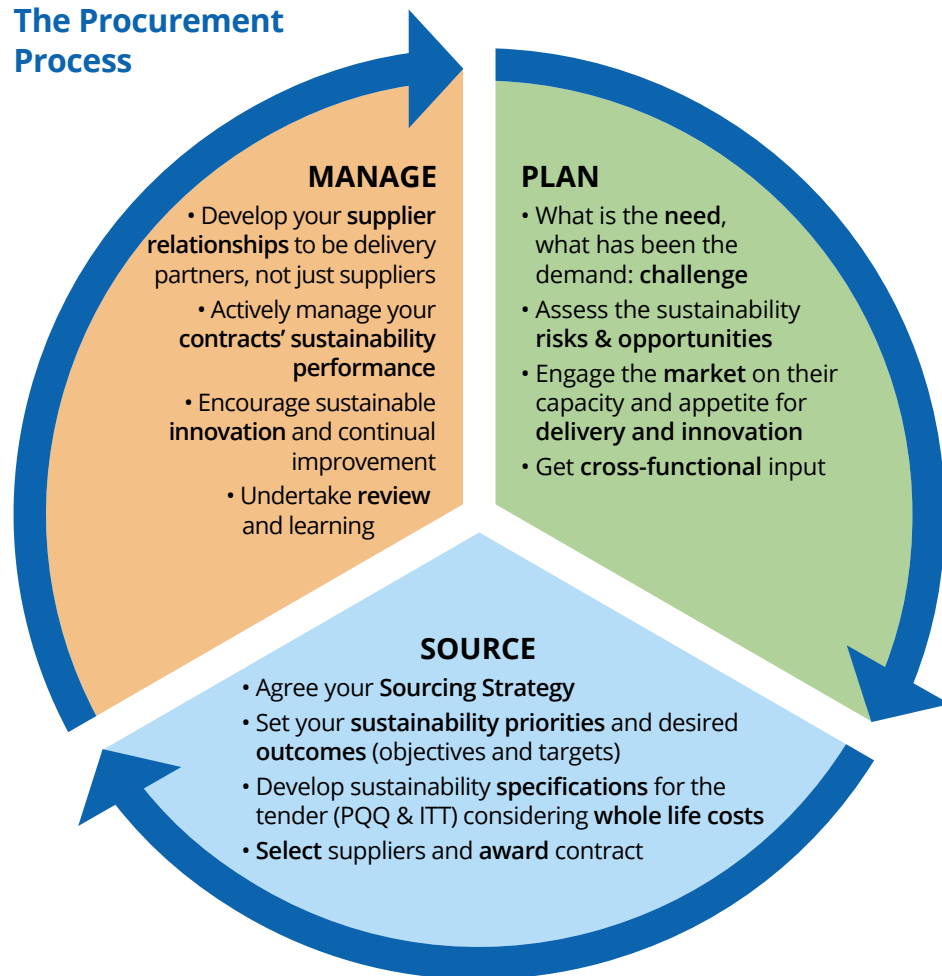
#### National Procurement Service (NPS) – furniture solutions framework

NPS wanted to investigate a circular approach to procurement through the re-use and re-manufacture of furniture, along with alternative business models, to prolong product life and conserve resources.

A cost benefit analysis, undertaken by WRAP Cymru, recognised that the net benefits of procuring re-used and re-manufactured goods exceed that of buying new. The net financial benefit of the Welsh public sector procuring less new furniture was estimated to be £1.6 million over 10 years, and £48.4 million across the UK public sector as a whole<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>4</sup> Reuse, remanufacture and alternative business models for the procurement of office and educational furniture' NPS case study October 2020

## The Procurement Process



Process	Tools and Resources
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Welsh Government Sustainability Risk Assessment Tools (SRA)</b> for Goods Procurement &gt; £25,000 and for Services Procurement &gt; £25,000</li> <li>• <b>Zero Waste Scotland's Guide</b> on Procuring for: Repair, Re-use and Remanufacturing (Category and Commodity Guidance)</li> <li>• <b>The EU's Green Public Procurement Toolkit</b> for developing a sustainable approach to procurement, including Needs assessment; Circular economy and Market engagement</li> <li>• <b>ICLEI's Public Procurement Manual</b></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>WRAP's Guidance</b> on setting recycled content specification in construction materials</li> <li>• <b>WRAP's Guide</b> on procuring office paper and publications with recycled content</li> <li>• <b>BRE's Green Guide</b> for specifying more sustainable materials in built environment</li> <li>• <b>CIPS' Guide</b> on the principles and practice of undertaking Whole Life Costing assessments in Procurement</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LM3 Local Spend</b> for calculating your organisation's local economic impact on its community</li> <li>• <b>EU Good Practice Guidance</b> on Public Procurement for a Circular Economy</li> <li>• <b>UK Government Guidelines</b> on recycling Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment</li> <li>• <b>US EPA's Recycled Content Tool</b> that helps companies estimate environmental impacts from purchasing materials with varying degrees of post-consumer recycled content</li> </ul>

Flowchart to support Theme 7

## 5.0 Looking forward

The Welsh public sector is aiming to achieve several policy goals through the way it procures goods and services. These include decarbonisation<sup>5</sup> and one planet living<sup>6</sup>. The WFG Act objectives provide the overarching framework to achieve these goals. But our success is predicated on changing the way we do things and embedding the principles of sustainable procurement.



One central and common aspect is the efficient and responsible use of the Earth's resources in delivering our services, works and projects. Enabling more products to be re-usable and maintainable, and buying more re-used, re-manufactured and recycled content products, will help us to meet that objective. It is vital that we change the way we do things.

### Your next steps:

- Designate Sustainability Champions and engage with your colleagues – including senior management – to seek their support in respect of the actions you have identified.
- Engage with your suppliers and other stakeholders to share your aims, ensure their understanding and collaborate.
- Map which products are suitable for the procurement of re-usable, re-used, re-manufactured or recycled content products (for example, re-usable canteen cutlery and re-used office furniture)<sup>7</sup>.
- Work with colleagues to track re-usable products.
- Embed a cycle of continuous improvement and WFG Act ways of working by regularly reviewing and updating your procurement processes.

<sup>5</sup> [Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Beyond Recycling](#)

<sup>7</sup> [Circular Procurement Hierarchy Guidance](#)

## 6.0 Resources

### Additional WRAP guidance and resources

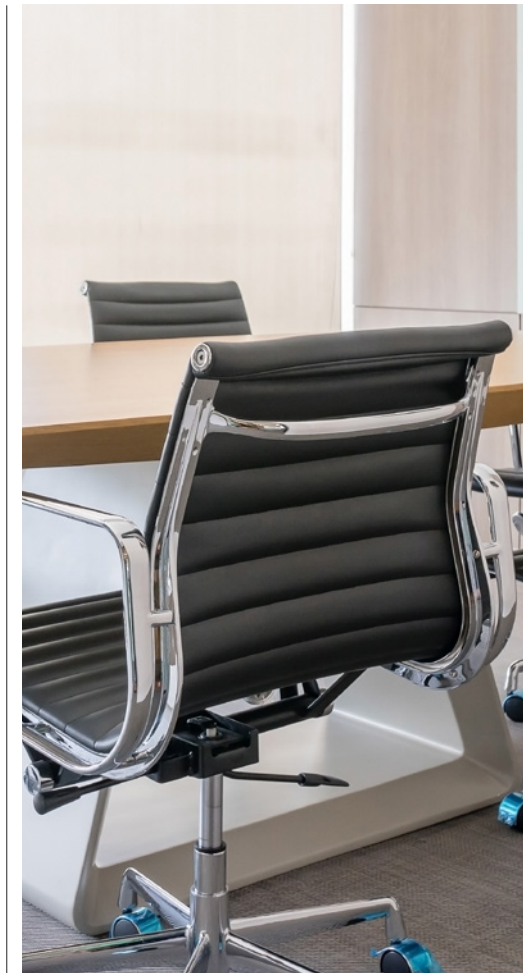
- [WRAP Cymru public sector guidance on the procurement of plastics, funded by the Welsh Government](#)
- [Setting a requirement for recycled content](#)
- [WRAP Cymru public sector procurement support and case studies, funded by the Welsh Government](#)
- [WRAP Cymru Circular Procurement Hierarchy Guidance, funded by the Welsh Government](#)

### Other sources of information

- [WRAP: Calculating and declaring recycled content in construction projects](#)
- [Environmental impact of higher recycled content in construction projects](#)
- [European Commission – Green Public Procurement](#)
- [Government Buying Standards \(GBS\)](#)
- [ISO 20400](#)
- [Recycled content in construction projects](#)
- [Recycled mixed plastics purchasing toolkit](#)

- [UN Environment Programme](#)
- [Use of recycled material in construction](#)
- [Wales Centre for Public Policy – Sustainable public procurement](#)
- [Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#)
- [The Future Generations Report 2020: A spotlight on Procurement](#)
- [Welsh Government – Beyond Recycling, a strategy to make the circular economy in Wales a reality](#)
- [Welsh Government – Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales](#)
- [Welsh Government – Wales Procurement Policy Statement](#)

**Note:** To access the full library of Supply Chain Sustainability School resources, readers must first open an account – quick and free to do [via this link](#).



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# About WRAP

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WRAP is not-for-profit, working with governments, businesses and citizens to create a world in which we use resources sustainably. Our experts generate the evidence-based solutions we need to protect the environment, build stronger economies and support more sustainable societies. Our impact spans the entire life cycle of the food we eat, the clothes we wear and the products we buy, from production to consumption and beyond.

This document provides practical, first-step advice for Welsh public sector bodies in overcoming the barriers to procuring sustainable products, with a focus on re-use, re-manufacture and recycled content.

**Document reference (please use when citing WRAP's work):**

WRAP Cymru, 2021. Public sector guidance on the procurement of sustainable products.

**Written by:**

WRAP Cymru and Resource Futures.

**Funded by:**

Welsh Government

**Photography:** Shutterstock

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Our mission is to accelerate the move to a sustainable resource-efficient economy through re-inventing how we design, produce and sell products; re-thinking how we use and consume products; and re-defining what is possible through re-use and recycling.

**Find out more at:**  
**[www.wrapcymru.org.uk/public-sector](http://www.wrapcymru.org.uk/public-sector)**

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