

Protecting and improving the nation's health

# **Supplier Charter**

## About Public Health England

Public Health England exists to protect and improve the nation's health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities. We do this through world-leading science, knowledge and intelligence, advocacy, partnerships and the delivery of specialist public health services. We are an executive agency of the Department of Health and Social Care, and a distinct delivery organisation with operational autonomy. We provide government, local government, the NHS, Parliament, industry and the public with evidence-based professional, scientific and delivery expertise and support.

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## Background

Public Health England (PHE) was established by the Government to improve health and wellbeing with a legal duty to protect health and address health inequalities. This charter endorses PHE's own suppliers who are proud of their values and behaviours and wants to work with reputation for fair dealing and quality delivery. This charter is intended to complement the Government Commercial Function (GCF) Supplier Code of Conduct.

### Scope

The provisions of this supplier charter are intended for third-party suppliers who are under contract to provide goods and/or services to PHE. PHE expects its suppliers to communicate this supplier charter to their named sub-contractors and employees and ensure that they, in turn, also observe the expectations outlined.

### Supplier management

PHE is developing its supplier management programme and is keen to work with suppliers for mutual benefit and for the good of society, using the Positive Procurement Development Model (see Annex A).

## Expectations

We expect the highest standards of business ethics from suppliers and their agents in the supply of goods and services funded by the public purse. We expect suppliers to comply fully with all laws, regulations and standards that are applicable to their business and operations in the jurisdictions in which they operate and that they will also ensure their suppliers and supply chains also comply with this charter. We require all suppliers to declare any interests they may have, including any throughout their supply chain which may be in conflict with PHE's values. We expect our suppliers to raise concerns with PHE without fear of consequence where dealing with our organisation does not reflect these values. We expect all, regardless of employment or contractual status, and including suppliers, to comply with the following documents which will also form a basis for our supplier and contract management.

#### PHE Code of Conduct

www.gov.uk/government/publications/code-of-conduct-public-health-england

#### **PHE People Charter**

PHE believes the way we behave towards each other will have the greatest impact on achieving our objectives:

### **Communicate**

- communicate openly, honestly and clearly, avoiding jargon
- seek out and share knowledge, suggest solutions
- encourage, listen and be receptive to others' views
- invite, offer and respond to feedback

## **Achieve together**

- work together towards PHE's objectives
- nurture open relationships and build trust
- work collaboratively with all customers, internally and externally
- empower each other and hold each other to account

## Respect

- treat colleagues and customers as they would wish to be treated
- value difference by embracing diversity and inclusion
- look after our own wellbeing and support each other
- recognise and celebrate our successes, large and small

### **Excel**

- provide excellent service to colleagues and customers
- drive personal development and suggest ways to improve
- lead by example, acting as a role model internally and externally
- maintain professionalism at all times

#### **Civil Service Code**

www.gov.uk/government/publications/civil-service-code/the-civil-service-code

#### **GCF Supplier Code of Conduct**

www.gov.uk/government/publications/supplier-code-of-conduct

### Generating social value

Where feasible, we expect to see increased commercial opportunities for underrepresented supplier groups, especially Small and Medium sized Enterprises (SMEs) and Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprises (VCSEs). We expect our supplier base to support the health and wellbeing of their employees, focusing on mental health and offer work experience and/or opportunities to the vulnerable/disadvantaged/longterm unemployed.

#### Innovation and sustainable profit

PHE expects suppliers to generate sustainable profit which they can invest to support improvements in goods and services for the long-term benefits of the health economy.

### Annex A

### Positive Procurement Development Model

The Positive Procurement Development Model aims to enable PHE and suppliers to establish where suppliers currently are on the development model and what actions need to be taken to progress a supplier through the model. For example, a supplier who can demonstrate that they currently comply with employment legislation will meet the 'complies with legislation' position on the model. The supplier will progress through the model as they:

- develop action plans to progress social value criteria in the organisation (Developing)
- 2. demonstrate proactivity in implementing those plans (Good)
- 3. create plans that reach beyond their own organisation, for example, into supply chains (Mature)

