



# Social Value Charter



## Procurement at UKAEA

**UKAEA** is committed to promote social value through its procurement process. By embedding social value within our procurements, we will seek to generate additional benefits beyond its primary purpose.

To support this commitment, UKAEA's **Social Value Charter** sets out the guiding principles and commitments that we invite our suppliers to adopt.

## What is social value for us?

Social value is the assessment of social, environmental and economic factors that a supplier could bring, if awarded the contract. The idea of best 'value' for money now incorporates the level of social value a supplier can provide. This is defined through the strategic themes outlined in the social value model and related policy outcomes, which reflect agreed cross-government priorities.

UKAEA will be looking to align its social value priorities to the UK Government's Social Value Model with a focus on the following:

- **Tackling economic inequality** to meet the policy outcome of creating new jobs within the supply chain and developing new skills. Another focus area will be increasing supply chain resilience and capacity as we scale up fusion technologies.
- **Fighting climate change** to ensure that our supply chain supports environmental protection and improvement.
- **Providing equal opportunities** to allow UKAEA to reduce workforce inequality within the supply chain.

# “To lead the delivery of sustainable fusion energy and maximise the scientific and economic benefit.”

## UKAEA Mission Statement

### UKAEA will

- Promote social value awareness within UKAEA.
- Promote social value awareness within the supply chain.
- Engage with our supply chain at the pre-procurement stage to identify opportunities to create and deliver social value.

### UKAEA's social value strategies

- Maximise the creation of social value through all tiers in the supply chain and ensure our goals, values and social value commitments are passed downstream.
- Encourage skill development and training opportunities to encourage the development of a fusion talent pipeline.
- Ensure Small Medium Enterprises (SME's) are given equal opportunity to secure contracts and encourage all direct suppliers to subcontract to SME's.
- Match our ambitions for sustainable green fusion energy by developing greener supply chains and reducing our scope 3 emissions.
- Develop skills through targeting those who may have limited employment opportunities to create a social value impact.

### Equal Opportunity



**Annual EDI Reports**



**EDI in procurement W/I**



**Regular Training**



**Mandatory Objectives**



## Fighting climate change

The goal of fusion research is to provide a low carbon energy source for the second half of this century. Whilst on the path to sustainable fusion energy, we aim to make our progress as environmentally friendly as possible.

Our Environmental Management System is certified to ISO 14001 and UKAEA is also committed to contribute to long-term environmental sustainability.

Our three key sustainability goals are focused on reducing emissions in the areas which make the biggest contribution to our carbon footprint:

**Goal 1.** Design and construct new buildings and campus infrastructure with a focus on sustainability

**Goal 2.** Improve the energy performance of the existing estate

**Goal 3.** Promote sustainability in our supply chain

Environmental standards are integrated as part of the tender process for our key contracts. We also observe the Government Buying Standards for Sustainable Procurement in the areas relevant to our activities.

UKAEA will be using Theme 3 “Fighting Climate Change” within the social value model to deliver the policy outcome of an effective stewardship of the environment within the social value model. We want to transfer our sustainability goals and engage with the supply chain to further these values within our procurements.

**Sustainability outcomes will be a core component of our evaluation criteria within our tenders.**

## Covid-19 recovery

During the pandemic, UKAEA continually monitored the impact of COVID-19 on the supply chain and collected data to identify the areas of the supply chain where we needed to intervene and support. We published these findings and although data has shown an improvement, we have continued monitoring impacts and are committed to support suppliers.

## Ethical Procurement

- Specialised commercial staff training
- Mandatory social value training for all Procurement staff
- Mandatory modern slavery training for all UKAEA employees
- Additional modern slavery in supply chain training for all Procurement staff and CPMs
- Modern Slavery Statement

## Well-being

UKAEA is integrating ways to increase staff wellbeing into our new campus facilities, such as increased ecology, landscaping, garden space and encouraging walking and cycling.



# The UK Atomic Energy Authority's mission is to lead the delivery of sustainable fusion energy and maximise the scientific and economic benefit.

Find out more  
[www.gov.uk/ukaea](http://www.gov.uk/ukaea)

## Our strategy going forward

Moving forward, UKAEA will be continuing to work with the social value model to ensure that we are maximising the impact our procurement activity has on our supply chain.

Procurement professionals and project leads will be collaborating on how the most social value can be created on a contract-by-contract basis. Understanding where value is created informs where social value can be created to the greatest extent. Therefore, engaging with our supply chain on this and understanding where to focus our social value development will enable us to generate social value.

Ensuring that UKAEA has a robust KPI reporting structure that allows us to track and develop the social value maturity of our suppliers, to allow for the greatest social value possible over the lifetime of the contract.

UKAEA continues to undertake training on social value following government guidelines that will allow UKAEA to develop its social value policy now and in the future.

UKAEA will consider procurement strategically to ensure that social value can be expressed in a way that develops social, environmental and economic objectives to the fullest extent.



*The leadership and governance of this approach will be led by the UKAEA Supply Chain team.*

*The charter and its content are subject to review in the event that legislation or policy is amended or replaced.*

United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority  
Culham Science Centre  
Abingdon  
Oxfordshire  
OX14 3DB

t: +44 (0)1235 820220  
e: [supplychain@ukaea.uk](mailto:supplychain@ukaea.uk)

CPS22.237