



Social Value Charter

UKAEA Mission Statement

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

Commercial at UKAEA

UKAEA is dedicated to promoting social value through its commercial process. By integrating social value into our practices, UKAEA aims to generate additional benefits that extend beyond the primary objectives of commercial practice.

“We’ve successfully engaged our local supply chain in the manufacturing process, allowing several suppliers to enter the fusion sector for the first time.” – an SME working with UKAEA

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 UKAEA aiming to do?



Promote social
value internally
within UKAEA



Engage with
our supply
chain to identify
opportunities of
social value



Promote
awareness of the
importance of social
value within our
supply chain

What is social value at UKAEA?

Social value is the assessment of social, environmental and economic factors that a supplier could offer, if awarded the contract. Under the Procurement Act 2023 the most advantageous tender ("MAT") fundamentally 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 is aligning its social value priorities to the [UK Government's Social Value Model \(PPN 002\)](#) with a focus on the following:

- Kick start economic growth: to secure the highest sustained growth in the G7 - with good jobs and productivity growth in every part of the country making everyone, not just a few, better off (Outcomes 1, 2 & 3)
- Make Britain a clean energy superpower: to cut bills, create jobs and deliver security with cheaper, zero-carbon electricity by 2030, accelerating to net zero (Outcome 4)
- Break down barriers to opportunity by creating employment and training opportunities, and a pipeline of entry to the workforce through developmental opportunities for young people (Outcomes 6 & 7)



UKAEA's social value commitments

- Introduction of a new platform, Thrive, to quantify and track the social value commitments of our suppliers.
- SME Engagement: Ensure Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) have equal opportunities to secure contracts, and encourage all direct suppliers to subcontract to SMEs, fostering a diverse and inclusive supply chain. UKAEA's SME Action Plan outlines our plans to increase and improve our engagement with SMEs.
- Skill development: Target individuals with limited employment opportunities to enhance their skills, creating a positive social value impact.
- Sustainable Green Fusion Energy: Align with our ambitions for sustainable green fusion energy by developing greener supply chains and reducing scope 3 emissions.
- Develop a fusion talent pipeline: identifying key skills, creating specialised training programs, promoting internships, fostering industry-academia collaboration and supporting continuous professional development through the FOSTER programme.



Ethics in Commercial

- Specialised commercial staff training
- Mandatory social value training for all Commercial staff
- Mandatory modern slavery training for all UKAEA employees
- Additional modern slavery in supply chain training for all Commercial staff and project managers
- Modern slavery statement published annually
- All tenders have a minimum of 10% weighted against Social Value in our evaluation criteria

Sustainability

UKAEA is firmly committed to delivering world-class research in an energy efficient manner to minimise the impact we have on our environment and to support and enhance the wider government net zero targets.

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

UKAEA reports on carbon emissions and sustainability-related activities through the Greening Government Commitments (GGC) and in our Annual Report.

As part of [UKAEA's Sustainability Strategy](#), we have identified three key sustainability goals:

- 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.

SMEs

- UKAEA's Suppliers' events consistently achieve over 50% SME attendance.
- 15% of our annual spend (2024-2025 period) was linked to SMEs.
- 7,500 suppliers on the Crown Commercial Service framework, used regularly by the Commercial team, are SMEs.
- We have established SME Surgeries to facilitate regular interaction, in addition to providing a platform for SMEs to share their insights and influence policymaking. We are committed to the prompt payment of our suppliers in line with the government prompt payment code, ensuring full compliance on payment terms for our Micro and SME suppliers.

“Being part of these projects has significantly contributed to the development of both our team's skills and capabilities. Our apprentices, graduates, and engineers have gained new skills.”

– an SME participant in the Fusion Futures Programme

Equal opportunities



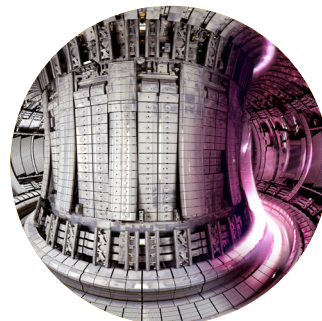
Annual EDI Reports



EDI in Commercial Work Instructions

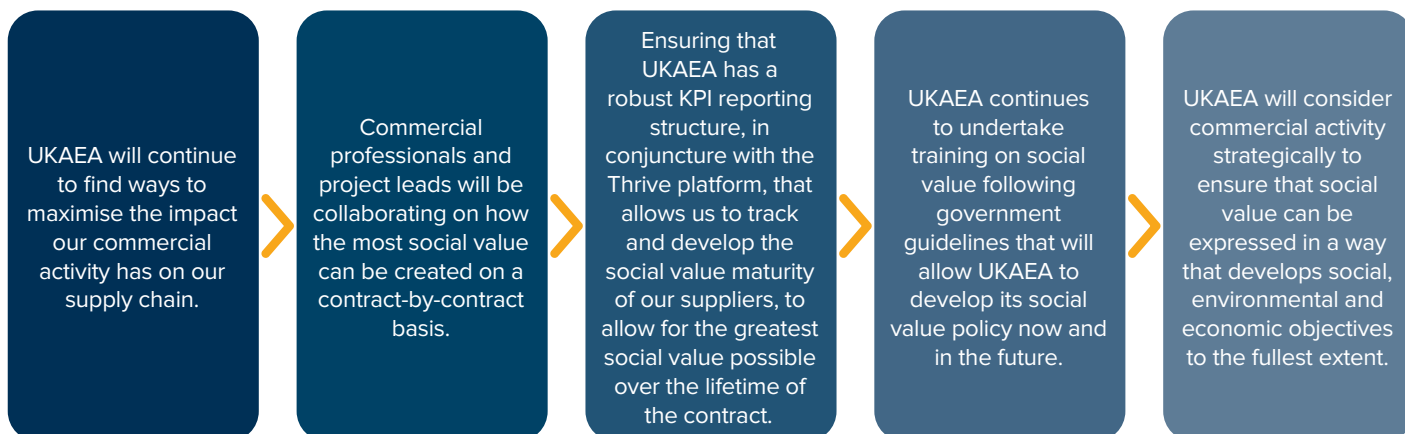


Regular Training



Mandatory Objectives

UKAEA's Strategy going forward



The leadership and governance of this approach will be led by UKAEA Commercial Function. The Charter and its content are subject to review in the event that legislation or policy is amended or replaced.

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Working alongside UKAEA has significantly accelerated our skills development and technical capabilities. It has also fostered a culture of continuous learning and innovation within our company. The partnership has also opened up new opportunities for professional development, including access to training, workshops, and learning from UKAEA experts. As a result, we've been able to upskill our workforce, attract new talent, and enhance our competitiveness in the high-tech sector. We're proud to be contributing to the UK's fusion energy mission and look forward to continuing our collaboration with UKAEA to drive innovation and sustainable growth."

– an SME working with UKAEA

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



UK Atomic
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Authority

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www.gov.uk/ukaea

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