

## **Sustainability Policy**

### **Purpose**

Inspire Education Group (IEG) and Subsidiary Companies are committed to the most efficient and effective way of procuring goods and services. It is in the interests of both the Group and the wider environment to consider procurement in terms of environmental, economic and social objectives counterbalanced against best value. Specific examples include energy efficient lamps, improvements to the central heating system, encouraging double sided printing, implementation of the Travel Plan, more effective use of utilities, purchasing of paper for printing and photocopying.

### **Scope**

This policy affects all staff and students. Their cooperation is an essential part of the aims of the policy.

### **The Policy Statement**

This policy is designed to significantly raise the profile of the need to consider and adopt a Sustainability (green) agenda by raising staff and student awareness. Failure to monitor and make year-on-year improvements to sustainability practices will inevitably result in increasing environmental costs to the Group. In addition, the Group has a responsibility to continue to raise the Green Agenda as funding opportunities will increasingly require evidence of sustainability.

The Group will:

- Ensure all procurement activities consider sustainability in term of environmental, economic and social issues
- Where financially viable, procure goods and services that address the sustainability agenda. Take the most financially prudent option where matters of sustainability and best value clash. This is to maximise its budget use for the benefit of learners, employers and the community
- Procure paper for printing from sustainable sources and recycling options must be considered
- Ensure that all procurement of mechanical and electrical equipment, for example lamps and switches, will result in an increase in efficiency
- Consider the full lifecycle of goods as part of the tender process. Recycling at the end-of-life will also be considered

**Policy Name:** HS029 – Sustainability Policy

**Policy Author:** Group Director of Estates, Facilities and Health & Safety

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- Work towards reduced utility consumption for Gas, Electricity and Water by implementing energy efficient improvements to its buildings and facilities. It will investigate and give due consideration to the introduction of new 'green' methods of generating energy such as solar power, wind energy, thermal energy (ground source heat pumps) in particular when carrying out new buildings or major refurbishment
- Encourage recycling initiatives around the campus to improve recycling levels and reduce waste going direct to landfill
- Continue to address responsible recycling of redundant IT equipment
- Continue to implement its Travel Plan to reduce the number of single occupancy vehicle journeys to and from work
- Staff and students are encouraged to make full use of double-sided printing and photocopying

## **Responsibilities**

The person with overall responsibility is the Chief Operating Officer, who will ensure that the Group remains legally compliant in its obligations and will oversee sustainability procurement initiatives and report progress to the Executive Team.

The key operational staff are the Group Finance Director and Group Director of Estates, Facilities and Health and Safety, Health and Safety Team and the Estates Managers.

## **Related Documentation**

- PRO001 - Procurement Policy
- HS006 - Carbon Reduction Policy
- HS011 – Environmental Policy
- HS016 – Green Travel Policy
- The Carbon Trust (<http://www.carbontrust.co.uk/Pages/Default.aspx>)
- Environmental Statement of Intent