

City of London Corporation Committee Report

Committee(s): Projects & Procurement Sub-Committee – For decision	Dated: 16 June 2025
Subject: Responsible Procurement Impact Report FY24-25	Public report: For Decision
This proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes 	All six outcomes (see appendix two)
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	£0
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of:	Caroline Al-Beyerty, Chamberlain
Report author:	Lisa Moore, Responsible Procurement Manager

Summary

As the governing body of the Square Mile, the City of London Corporation recognises its responsibility to deliver value through every pound spent. With an annual third-party spend of approximately £700 million, we are committed to ensuring that our procurement practices generate measurable, positive outcomes for our workers, residents, learners and visitors.

This report holds us and our supply chain partners accountable, measuring success against the commitments in our Responsible Procurement Policy. It also publicly recognises suppliers who have fulfilled their commitments and showcase ‘what good looks like’ to the City Corporation. With 28 impact statistics and 11 supplier spotlights—14 in total which feature SMEs—this report sets a benchmark for excellence in the sector.

The impact report 24-25 showcases work from suppliers and contract managers across the City Corporation. This committee report acknowledges an improvement in data collection compared to the previous year and highlights ongoing efforts under the Commercial Improvement Programme to further embed practices that support measurable impact.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to approve the publication of the Responsible Procurement Impact Report 2024-25 on our external website.

Main Report

Background

1. In July 2022, the Policy & Resources Committee approved an updated Responsible Procurement Policy which outlines the importance of responsible procurement (RP) as part of the overall value delivered through procurement; the responsibilities of buying officers at each stage of the commercial life cycle and the six RP commitments the City Corporation actively work on with its supply chain.
2. The six RP commitments are: taking climate action; promoting supplier diversity (diverse owned enterprises and SMEs); embedding equity, diversity and inclusion; guarding against modern slavery; facilitating work-related opportunities and delivering meaningful social value outcomes. Please refer to appendix one for full wording.
3. This policy also increased the RP weighting to a mandatory 15% for all strategic procurement tenders (over £100k). To ensure we were taking advantage of that weighting, the City Corporation committed to compiling an annual impact report from FY23-24 to be published in Q1 of the following financial year.
4. The first RP impact report was published in June 2024 and a mid-year report was published in December 2024.
5. RP impact reporting aims to inform City Corporation officers, suppliers and Members about the positive impact their work is having on our communities and beyond. Our residents can observe how the City Corporation leverages supply chain spend for their benefit. Our stakeholders will recognise us as a responsible business. (e.g. Charities Commission, potential applicants, investors, etc).
6. The previous Impact report has been positively received by City Corporation officers and members, our peers in London, and external stakeholders such as suppliers and partner organisations. Feedback from other councils has indicated that this report serves as a benchmark for excellence in RP reporting.

Current Position

7. The annual impact report (provided as a PDF in non-public appendix three) showcases the best added value delivered by and with our supply chain partners; gives praise to suppliers who have fulfilled their commitments and displays what good looks like to the City Corporation.
8. This year, we have introduced several new features. In response to Member feedback from last year, we have contextualised some of the outcomes by providing equivalents for carbon emissions saved and best practice notes explaining why certain items are considered 'good'. Additionally, we aimed to

highlight the contributions of our SME contractors. Contrary to common misconceptions, SMEs have demonstrated their capacity and capability to support our RP commitments.

9. The introduction of the mid-year report, which focuses on actions taken by our organisation to facilitate our RP commitments, has enabled us to use the annual report to highlight outcomes and impact delivered by our supply chain. The exception is the new benchmarking section which was added in direct response to Member feedback from last year.
10. We aim to provide more timely updates on the positive contributions of our supply chain. As part of a pilot initiative, our Responsible Procurement Apprentice utilised their apprenticeship project to trial more frequent posts showcasing impact delivery and enhancing visibility through LinkedIn. The project was successful, demonstrating a 91% increase in engagement figures, from 179 to 342, over the course of a few months. We have recruited a Responsible Procurement Officer, one of whose responsibilities will be to apply the learnings from this project and continue to advance the transition to real-time impact reporting.

Key Data

11. The impact report contains a blend of quantitative and qualitative data. It includes information from 42 suppliers (up from 30 last year), 11 supplier spotlights (short case studies), and 28 impact statistics. Such as:
 - Page five, our spotlight and stats on Social Pantry and their inspirational ethical employment (supporting prison leavers) and a sustainable catering approach with lots of examples of how they're striving to be a responsible business
 - Page 16, spotlight showcasing 17 SME suppliers graduated from Heart of the City's Net Zero Accelerator (funded by the Climate Action Strategy), committing to saving 13,525 tonnes of CO₂e when they reach net zero – equivalent to emissions from over 12,000 one-way economy flights from London to New York.
 - Page 18, Sykes & Son spotlight on their partnership with Hestia to support survivors of modern slavery shows a deep ethical commitment, supported by impressive impact stats inc. £10K raised, 152 volunteer hours, 242 beneficiaries supported.
12. Of the £700m spent with third party contractors in 24/25, at least £224m was with suppliers that are mentioned in this report totalling 37%. Some of the suppliers in this report will be providing services on our sites or on our behalf that are paid for by external stakeholders e.g. event catering. That figure also does not include suppliers that provided information for the report but were not included either due to unsuitability or space constraints. The impact report was thoughtfully crafted to highlight meaningful progress across all six commitments, balancing comprehensive insights with clear, accessible language to ensure all stakeholders stay engaged.

13. We have also highlighted 14 statistics or spotlights delivered by SMEs and included six best practice pointers.
14. Last year's report has encouraged more suppliers and contract managers to come forward this year. One of the outcomes of the Commercial Improvement Programme is to embed and mobilise our RP commitments. New procurement and contract management procedures are being reviewed and developed to ensure greater awareness and capability to report on RP impact.
15. A RP dashboard is being built by the Impact and Reporting team which will measure KPIs on climate action and supplier diversity for reporting to Members and procurement category boards. Additional RP KPIs will be included in dashboards for the Commercial Service.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Strategic implications – The six RP commitments are strongly aligned with the priorities outlined in our the Corporate Plan. Appendix two has more information. Additionally, the central government's National Procurement Policy Statement emphasises the responsibility to deliver added value for taxpayers. The impact report also provides benchmarking information on our efforts in supplier diversity, supporting the City Corporation's SME Strategy.

Financial implications – No direct financial implications. The impact report provides examples of money being raised for charity through organisational social value.

Resource implications – Compiling this report is resource-intensive due to the predominantly manual data collection process. CCPD has repurposed a frozen role within the structure to accommodate an additional resource in the Responsible Procurement team (within the Impact & Reporting division), who has increased responsibility for collaborating with contract managers and suppliers to compile and produce impact report materials.

Legal implications – All suppliers mentioned in the report have confirmed their willingness to be included.

Risk implications – None

Equalities implications – The commitments in the Responsible Procurement Policy aim to positively impact or mitigate negative impacts on individuals with protected characteristics.

Climate implications - The commitments in the Responsible Procurement Policy aim to positively impact or mitigate negative impacts on climate and other aspects of environmental sustainability. Climate action is our top responsible procurement commitment, and we have a dedicated project plan for purchased goods and services under the Climate Action Strategy. The project plan commits us to collaborating with the top 25 suppliers, supporting contract managers, and providing training for SMEs in our supply chain to develop net zero carbon strategies.

Security implications - None

Conclusion

16. The City Corporation's Corporate Plan calls for values-driven leadership. Through this report, we reaffirm our position as a national leader in responsible procurement.

17. By embedding equity, sustainability, and social value into our procurement processes, we are not only meeting our commitments—we are shaping the future of public sector procurement. This report is a testament to the collaborative efforts of our officers, suppliers, and partners, and we will continue to build on this momentum through ongoing engagement and innovation.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 - City Corporation Responsible Procurement Commitments in full
- Appendix 2 - Corporate Plan Objectives mapped against relevant responsible procurement commitments
- Non Public Appendix 3 – Responsible Procurement Impact Report (separate PDF)

Background Papers

- PPSC, December 2024, Responsible Procurement Midyear Impact Report

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Appendix 1: Responsible Procurement Commitments

Each commitment is a strategic theme based on related policy outcomes that reflect the City Corporations priorities. The City Corporation commits to working with its supply chain to:

1. Take climate action and minimise environmental impacts of procurement on our operations and throughout our supply chain.
2. Encourage and facilitate supplier diversity (Diverse Owned Enterprises and SMEs) through direct contracts, partnerships and active monitoring.
3. Embed equity, diversity and inclusion throughout the contract process and work with suppliers who have proven to take active steps within their own organisations, supply chain and industry.
4. Protect human rights in our supply chain by working with suppliers who undertake due diligence to guard against modern slavery and other human rights abuses.
5. Facilitate meaningful work-related opportunities, which are actively targeted to enable social mobility and inclusion.
6. Achieve meaningful social value outcomes according to organisational and stakeholder priorities through internal collaboration, community input and supplier engagement.

Appendix 2: Corporate Plan Objectives mapped against relevant responsible procurement commitments as a vehicle for delivering the desired corporate plan outcomes.

Corporate Plan Outcome: Diverse Engaged Communities

- Supplier Diversity - supporting the SME Strategy.
- Equity Diversity & Inclusion - suppliers contributing and sharing information for the City Belonging Project.

Corporate Plan Outcome: Leading Sustainable Environment

- Climate Action - Working in partnership with our supply chain to take climate action on our contracts; promoting more accurate carbon emissions data; seeking to reduce emissions on our sites; and supporting the circular economy and just transition.

Corporate Plan Outcome: Dynamic Economic Growth

- Supplier diversity supporting SMEs and diverse owned enterprises boosting economic growth.

Corporate Plan Outcome: Providing Excellent Services

- Work Related Opportunities, Social Value - support for education, learning and skills, carers strategy and proving support for young people and schools
- EDI - focus on equality, diversity and inclusion to improve social mobility and reduce inequalities through employment, skills and other support.
- Climate Action - improve air quality in Square Mile

Corporate Plan Outcome: Vibrant Thriving Destination

- Social Value delivered by supply chain partners to strengthen offering of the Business Improvement Districts, City businesses and charities.
- Climate Action/ Work Related Opportunities – promoting training and skills for a sustainable built environment (Skills for a sustainable skyline)
- Supplier Diversity - supplier readiness and engagement with SMEs

Corporate Plan Outcome: Flourishing Public Spaces

- Climate Action, Supplier Diversity EDI, Modern Slavery, Work Related Opportunities, Social Value on Salisbury Square and Barbican Renewal