

## Sustainable Procurement Policy (external)

At mark-making\* we're constantly looking at our business through the lens of its wider role in society. So, as we juggle the management of our people, operations, commercials, clients and the creation of award-winning work, our eyes are always open to much bigger and broader issues. Which is why we genuinely believe that sustainability, the environment, waste management, human rights and the true cost of a throw-away society are topics that just can't be ignored.

Now we want to use our buying power as a force for good. To protect both people and the natural environment, cut our carbon emissions, support our local community and influence others to make positive changes. So that we become part of the solution, not the problem.

By placing sustainability criteria at the heart of our procurement policy we hope to achieve B Corp accreditation and be officially recognised for hitting the highest standards of social and environmental performance, public transparency and legal accountability.

It will also add value to our business and help us to protect our clients from reputational risk.

### **Our aims and objectives are to:**

- Minimise our environmental impact and deliver community benefits through better selection and improved usage of products and services.
- Foster innovation in our supply markets to increase the availability and effectiveness of sustainable solutions that meet our organisational requirements.
- Encourage our suppliers to adopt practices that minimise their environmental impact and deliver community benefits in relation to their own operations and throughout the supply chains they operate in.
- Work in partnership with our suppliers to achieve our common goals and continually improve performance over time.

### **We're committed to:**

- Setting objectives and action plans that support this Policy and pursue continuous improvement of our practices.
- Prioritising suppliers who have embedded sustainable and ethical practices within their organisation and that drive such practices within their own supply chain.
- Identifying areas of higher risk and influence within our supply chain and engaging with our suppliers in those areas.
- Complying with the letter and spirit of all applicable legislation.

**Through supplier selection and direct engagement, we'll favour suppliers that actively:**

- Reduce their environmental footprint through:
  - Conservation of resources, including the use of energy, water and materials.
  - Minimising waste, both within their operations and by reducing their packaging where appropriate.
  - Reducing the impact of deliveries and maximising local sourcing.
  
- Deliver benefits to society by:
  - Complying with International Labour Organization (ILO) principles in respect to human rights and conditions of employment.
  - Ensuring that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place in any of their supply chains and in any part of their business.
  
- Drive economic growth through:
  - Supporting job creation and facilitating opportunities for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and social businesses.
  - Considering the lifecycle cost of products.
  - Providing the National Living Wage (at a minimum) to employees and contractors.
  
- Comply with our Guide for Supply Partners.

It is our policy to identify and manage the environmental, social and economic impacts within our supply chain, but we also recognise that improving our procurement performance is an ongoing process. And we can not do this alone; our suppliers, both large and small, are important partners in our journey to becoming more sustainable.

**This Policy has been communicated throughout our company. It will be reviewed on a regular basis to evaluate continued relevance, monitor compliance, and drive continuous improvement.**

**This Policy is effective from 1st January 2021.**



Stephen Turner  
Co-Founder