

North Tyneside Council

Responsible Procurement Charter

Every year North Tyneside Council procures a significant quantity of services and supplies, with a vast supply chain of over 4,000 suppliers and an annual external spend of £260 million.

With this comes a responsibility to ensure that we incorporate legal, ethical, environmental, and social considerations into our spending decisions whilst maximising value for residents of North Tyneside. We will ensure an informed decision-making process is followed to maintain a balance between economic, social and environmental priorities in making procurement choices, whilst meeting the required operational and business requirements.

Our relationship with suppliers will be underpinned by the following **values and principles**

Transparency	Accountability
Integrity	Engagement
Fairness	Respect

Our Charter focuses on the following areas:

Thriving	Economic Prosperity and impact	We will support local businesses as well as larger national organisations. We will ensure our tendering process engage the market at the right time and our opportunities are attractive to the market. We support prompt payment and expect our supply chain to have similar payment terms. Making North Tyneside Council an exemplar procuring Authority.
	Social value	We will continually review the contracting decisions made on behalf of the Authority. Ensuring best practice in how we procure goods and services. We will maximise the opportunity for Social Value within our supply chain. We will engage with and support markets to deliver on our behalf. We will review purchasing decisions to consider whether we can deliver internally or partner with similar agencies to support delivery.
Secure	Residents	Our residents are at the heart of what we do. Maximising value for our residents is key and delivering right first time is essential.

	Safe communities	Community safety ensures that North Tyneside is a great place to work, visit and live. Working with our supply chain to achieve a strong and safe community free from crime, intimidation, harassment, and fear.
Family Friendly	Safeguarding	With our supply chain we will look for every opportunity to improve the welfare of residents, implementing practices that safeguard vulnerable communities and avoiding practices that could cause harm, this includes being alert to the risks of modern slavery.
Caring	Health, Safety and Wellbeing	The health, safety, and wellbeing of everyone who lives, works or visits North Tyneside is a collective responsibility. We aim to provide our staff with all necessary training, equipment, and methods to achieve the highest level of health and safety performance and expect the same from our supply chain.
	Equality, Diversity and Inclusion	North Tyneside Council celebrates the value that different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives can bring to our communities and businesses. In all activities we recognise the importance of ensuring no-one is treated in a way that excludes or discriminates, this includes identifying any practices that may disadvantage any specific group of residents and doing everything we can to prevent them.
Green	Working towards a carbon net-zero future	North Tyneside Council has declared a climate emergency, setting a target to be carbon neutral by 2030. Our charter sets an ambition for the supply chain to help us work towards these goals. We want to reduce waste, emissions, and the use of natural resources. We support technology and innovative methods to help us achieve this aim.