

Sustainable Procurement Plan

Grovemere Property Limited

1. Background:

Grovemere Property Limited is a family-owned commercial property business based in Ely, Cambridgeshire. We strive to have a positive impact on our communities and environment and believe that a sustainable approach makes good business sense. In procuring and maintaining the built environment we select and use a large volume of resources. The choices we make may have a significant impact on people, organisations and the wider environment. We have therefore developed a Sustainable Procurement Policy outlining how we seek to influence procurement choices.

We understand that each construction project and its associated procurement is unique and will have different drivers and different sustainability risks and opportunities. This plan sets out a clear framework for the responsible and sustainable procurement of building projects. It guides procurement throughout all of Grovemere Property's construction projects and by all involved in the specification and procurement of construction materials.

2. Opportunities & Risks:

The following risks and opportunities have been considered in relation to the Sustainable Procurement Plan. The list covers a range of environmental, social and economic themes:

Opportunities:

- Minimise the impact on the environment and be socially responsible;
- Create a culture of sustainability and wellbeing;
- Engage with our supply chain to promote and encourage best practice, improved working conditions, equality and ethical behaviour;
- Improve sustainable sourcing of materials (e.g. timber sourcing)
- Improve our purchasing performance by encouraging a close working relationship with contractors, sub-contractors and suppliers for the benefit of all;
- Enhance company reputation.
- Work with contractors who are signed up to the Considerate Constructors Scheme.

Risks:

- Waste to landfill;
- Unethical treatment of workforce;
- Reputation damage.

3. Aims, objectives and targets:

At Grovemere Property we are committed to encouraging sustainable development on all of our developments. This Sustainable Procurement Policy's aims and objectives are to:

- Encourage recognised responsible sourcing standards for procurement of materials, for example by requiring that all timber and timber products are procured from legal and sustainable sources. Procure other construction materials with a preference for recognised responsible sourcing schemes;
- Where possible procure locally, provide opportunities for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs);
- Use fewer resources and minimise the carbon emissions associated with the projects we procure;

- Specify and procure materials and products that strike a responsible balance between social, economic and environmental factors and generate benefits to society and the economy;
- Promote the specification and sourcing of materials which can be reused and consider future deconstruction and recovery of resources;
- Encourage contractors to engage with manufacturers, suppliers and sub-contractors to jointly develop strategies to reduce packaging on our projects;
- Ensure that fair contract prices and terms are applied and respected, and that ethical, human rights and labour standards are met. Question where materials originate from to ensure that construction materials have not been produced through the exploitation of people or the environment;
- Enhance the health and wellbeing of the people and communities we work with by promoting materials and products that improve indoor environmental quality. For example seek to minimise the impact of materials containing toxic VOCs procured on our projects wherever technically feasible.
- Target a net gain on bio-diversity on all projects;

4. Implementation:

To ensure effective implementation of this Sustainable Procurement Plan we aim to:

- Understand our clients' sustainability ambitions and the unique circumstances of the project, and re-think/challenge the need for the project;
- Work with stakeholders and clients to explore if the need can be met without a procurement taking place e.g. by offering an existing building to accommodate their needs;
- Make sustainability requirements clear from the start;
- Encourage a good level of scoring under BREEAM: All projects over 1,000sq.m. are required to achieve a BREEAM Very Good rating in line with Local Authority requirements.
- Ensure contractors are signed up to the Considerate Constructors Scheme;
- Apply a risk-based approach to ensure we focus on the areas of greatest potential impact;
- Work and engage with local and/or smaller vendors where appropriate;
- Promote transparency of practice and decision making, limiting the scope for unethical conduct;
- Monitor our performance and ensure that examples of best practice are identified and disseminated throughout the business;
- Ensure the supply chain are involved as early as possible in the project to ensure expertise is harnessed and whole-life value is secured;
- Review lessons learned, record what works at the end of each project for implementation on the next project.
- Share this knowledge to promote better sustainable procurement practices across the industry.

5. Conclusion:

This Sustainable Procurement Plan is based on Grovemere Property's values and communicates to our people, designers, contractors, manufacturers, supply chain and clients, our approach in a logical, clear and practical way. By operating in line with this policy we will play our part in reducing risks, safeguarding natural resources, delivering value to our customers, improving resource efficiency, as well as leaving a positive legacy on biodiversity and safeguarding natural capital.

This Sustainable Procurement Plan summarises the minimum requirements that we expect from all of our projects. The Plan is to be applied where relevant and proportionate to the works or services being provided. The plan is communicated to our suppliers, contractors, sub-contractors and consultants to support us in meeting this commitment.