



Green Public Procurement Strategy

1. Vision

Fingal County Council recognises the critical role of public procurement in promoting environmental, social, and economic progress.

2. What is Green Public Procurement?

Green Public Procurement (GPP) is a process where public authorities seek to source goods, services or works with a reduced environmental impact throughout their life cycle when compared to goods, services and works with the same primary function that would ordinarily be procured.¹

3. Introduction

Fingal County Council is committed to keeping sustainability to the forefront of everything we do and adopting green procurement strategies to achieve a more sustainable future for our community and promote eco-innovation, climate action, and circular economy. Fingal County Council want to ensure that our County continues to be a place to live, work, play and do business in for future generations. [Fingal County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029](#).

4. Policy

This green public procurement strategy sets out Fingal County Council's commitment to environmental, economic and socially sustainable procurement. This strategy complements the Corporate Procurement Plan 2024-2026 and builds upon the Council's commitment, principles and actions to which are referenced in the Council's [Corporate Plan 2019-2024](#) and in the Fingal County Council Climate Change Action Plan, a joint initiative by the four Dublin Local Authorities. The Climate Change Action Plan identifies five key areas where Fingal County Council will strive to reduce the impacts of climate change. This Plan also provides a clear mandate for sustainability through procurement.

Fingal County Council is committed to achieving a more sustainable future for our county through the adoption of green public procurement policies and procedures. We believe that sustainable procurement practices can deliver significant environmental, social and economic benefits, while also improving the quality and efficiency of our procurement processes.

By including Green Public Procurement (GPP) criteria in our procurement activities, we can contribute to the protection of our planet and promote sustainable development for the next generations.

Fingal County Council is committed to the following GPP policy principles:

¹ [gov - Green Public Procurement \(GPP\) \(www.gov.ie\)](http://gov.ie)

1. Prioritising the purchase of eco-friendly, energy-efficient, and low-carbon products and services throughout our procurement activities, while balancing value for money, quality, and performance.
2. Including GPP criteria in our procurement processes, such as life-cycle costing, procurement specifications, and technical requirements. All contracts and frameworks will include specific clauses highlighting the commitments made in response to GPP criteria, together with clear requirements for monitoring, reporting, escalation and remedies in case of non-performance.
3. GPP commitments are recommended as a standing item on the agenda at all contract review meetings. Contract clauses will also provide for periodic reviews of environmental performance, with the possibility of increasing the level of ambition in line with the contracting authority's commitments in relation to climate change or other environmental policies.
4. All contracts and frameworks currently in place which have significant environmental impacts will be reviewed to identify whether these are adequately addressed, and if not, what scope exists for amending them.
5. All staff involved in procurement and contract management will receive training in the basic concepts, tools and techniques relevant to applying GPP in their role.
6. Engage with suppliers, contractors, and other stakeholders to promote innovative, sustainable solutions and technologies that align with our GPP objectives.
7. Require our suppliers and contractors to comply with relevant environmental and social standards, including ISO 14001, ISO 50001, and OHSAS 18001.
8. Monitor and evaluate our procurement activities regularly to ensure compliance with our GPP policy, identify opportunities for improvement, and measure our environmental, social, and economic impact.

3. Objectives

Fingal County Council's Green Public Procurement (GPP) strategy aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. Reduce the environmental impact of our procurement activities.
2. Promote the purchase of environmentally friendly, energy-efficient, and low-carbon products and services.
3. Encourage the adoption of socially responsible policies, such as fair labor practices, ethical sourcing, and diverse supplier engagement.
4. Raise awareness and educate suppliers, contractors, and internal stakeholders about our GPP objectives and requirements.
5. Monitor and evaluate our progress, measure the outcomes of our green procurement activities, and report on our achievements to the public.

4. Actions

1. GPP checkpoints will be introduced in all procurement procedures to ensure that each of the below actions have been carried out.

2. Needs assessment and market engagement will be undertaken prior to tendering, to establish the scope for including GPP criteria and the appropriate level of ambition.
3. GPP criteria will be included in either the technical specifications, award criteria or both for all contracts and frameworks. Where green award criteria are applied, at least 5% - 10% of the marks will be allocated to these².
4. The use of life-cycle costing will be considered for all contracts and frameworks in which a significant part of the total cost of ownership arises after the point of purchase. Where a decision is taken not to apply life-cycle costing, this must be justified. Environmental externalities (e.g., CO₂e emissions will be monetized and included in LCC where a method is available for this, for example the EU LCC tools)
5. All contracts and frameworks will include specific clauses highlighting the commitments made in response to GPP criteria, together with clear requirements for monitoring, reporting, escalation, and remedies in case of non-performance. GPP commitments will be a standing item on the agenda at all contract review meetings. Contract clauses will also provide for periodic reviews of environmental performance, with the possibility of increasing the level of ambition in line with the contracting authority's commitments in relation to climate change or other environmental policies.
6. All staff involved in procurement and contract management will receive training in the basic concepts, tools, and techniques relevant to applying GPP in their role.
7. All contracts and frameworks currently in place which have significant environmental impacts will be reviewed to identify whether these are adequately addressed, and if not, what scope exists for amending them.

5. Targets and Timelines

Action	Target	Timeline
GPP checkpoints introduced	100% of procurement procedures	Ongoing
Needs assessment prior to publishing tender	All tenders above €25,000 or with significant environmental impacts ³	Ongoing
Market engagement prior to publishing tender	All tenders above €50,000 or where market capacity to deliver GPP requirements is unknown.	Ongoing

² Buying Greener GPP Strategy and Action Plan 2024-2027

³ Significant environmental impacts include greenhouse gas emissions, air, water or soil pollution, waste, water consumption and impacts on natural resources and biodiversity. Where uncertainty exists about the level of impact associated with a contract, an internal estimate must be made.

GPP criteria included in specifications, award criteria (5% - 10% of marks) ⁴	All tenders above €25,000 in the categories covered by the EPA criteria OR with significant environmental impacts.	Ongoing
Life-cycle costing applied in all relevant tenders (including environmental externalities), unless specifically justified.	All tenders above €25,000 where a significant part of the total cost of ownership ⁵ arises after the point of purchase.	Ongoing
Contract clauses on GPP commitments, together with clear requirements for monitoring, reporting, escalation and remedies in case of non-performance.	All contracts or frameworks above €25,000 in the categories covered by the EPA criteria OR with significant environmental impacts	Ongoing
Staff training on GPP concepts, tools, and techniques.	All staff involved in procurement and contract management	December 2024
Review of awarded contracts/frameworks to establish need and scope for amendments to address environmental impacts.	All contracts and frameworks in place with more than one year left prior to expiry (including any possible renewals)	December 2024

6. Resources and Reporting

Action	Reporting
GPP checkpoints introduced	Reporting on checkpoints as part of each Tender Report.
Needs assessment prior to publishing tender	Needs Statement with GPP considerations prior to tender authorization.
Market engagement prior to publishing tender	Market Engagement Report prior to tender authorisation.
GPP criteria included in specifications, award criteria or both (minimum 10% of marks)	Tender Report to note criteria applied and outcome.
Life-cycle costing applied in all relevant tenders (including environmental externalities), unless specifically justified.	Tender Report to note if LCC applied and outcome.
Contract clauses on GPP commitments,	Tender Report to note GPP contract clauses included.

⁴ Buying Greener GPP Strategy and Action Plan 2024-2027

⁵ A significant part of the total cost of ownership would be more than 10% of the total.

together with clear requirements for monitoring, reporting, escalation and remedies in case of non-performance.	
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7. Ownership and Communication

- We will continually increase and promote awareness of green and sustainable procurement practices to all relevant staff.
- We will continually strive to increase the percentage of purchases of goods and services with a reduced environmental impact.
- We will promote the sharing of good practices and share good practice through the Procurement Liaison Group.
- We will regularly review Fingal County Council purchasing requirements and address any areas where there is a potential to reduce our environmental impact.
- We will publish our Green Public Procurement Strategy to www.fingal.ie and it will be reviewed each year.
- Any queries or comments should be directed to procurement@fingal.ie.