

## Birmingham Airport Sustainable Procurement

### Overview

Birmingham Airport recognises that the procurement of goods and services has financial, environmental and social impacts.

Birmingham Airport operates a Sustainable Procurement Policy: a commitment to follow the principles of sustainable procurement, where financial, environmental and social impacts are considered. A key principle of Sustainable Procurement is to ensure high quality material and productivity in use, around the principles of “working smarter”.

### Principles

The policy encourages self-delivery, re-use and recycling of goods and services, and the consideration of the entire life-cycle of a product at the purchase stage. By looking long-term, procurement can help to “future-proof” the business from, for example, the affects of climate change on infrastructure and services.



For large infrastructure projects sustainable purchasing and climate change adaptation need to be considered at the early stages. An example is the new Air Traffic Control Tower which included a consideration of the more extreme future climate when deciding on the scale of heating and cooling required.

The policy also considers suppliers and ensures that where appropriate, supplier’s sustainability credentials are considered in the evaluation process when contracts are being awarded.

### Outcomes

A Sustainable Procurement Policy communicates to purchasers and suppliers what principles to consider and can create lasting benefits to a business.

At Birmingham Airport this ranges from simple recycling or stationary and furniture, to favouring more costly LED lighting over short term higher energy lighting. It also extends to more complex tender agreements - a recent order for new fire engines stipulates a high EURO rating vehicles and an ability to use more environmentally friendly foam.

It is clear that sustainable procurement can make a big difference in ensuring that Birmingham Airport optimises its environmental performance.

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