

# Sustainable procurement

## Public Statement

Dumfries and Galloway Council has established as one of its key priorities a commitment to balancing environmental, social and economic principles and to working with all sectors of the business community in order to achieve this objective. In support of this, the Council has nominated its Assistant Chief Executive, Lorna Meehan, as its Sustainable Procurement Champion.

The Council has significant buying power both locally and regionally and recognises the importance of Sustainable Procurement in supporting the wider sustainability agenda. A focused programme of work will start in the second quarter of 2014 which will be intended to meet the requirements of new legislation which, it is anticipated, will address a number of economic, social and environmental factors

The Council is committed to making more sustainable choices, which will include reviewing existing requirements and specifications to identify more sustainable ways of meeting our needs and designing sustainable procurement specifications accordingly. Social, economic and environmental implications of product and service choices will all be taken into account.

Whole life costing will be an important aspect of future policy and will address how aspects such as design, manufacturing materials, operating costs, energy consumption, waste and recycling options support a more sustainable approach. We are committed to working in partnership with our Suppliers and Contractors to minimise the environmental and social impacts of our supply chain.

Through close co-operation with SME's (small and medium sized enterprises) and local suppliers and the promotion of the Quick Quote facility, the Council will be concentrating on some of the economic issues which relate to procurement.

Engagement with local suppliers in particular will include awareness sessions and practical training on the use of the Quick Quote facility and e-tendering processes to assist in providing accessibility to contracts tendered by the Council.

The Council will continue with the good progress which has been made and with the implementation, through the Procurement Reform Bill, of the new legislation in 2014 will continue to deliver economic, environmental and social benefits to its residents and business enterprises located in Dumfries and Galloway.