

Statement of Purchasing Environmental Policy

The aim of the purchasing department is to ensure that staff involved in the procurement of goods and services are aware of the impact they have on the environment. In particular that staff should where possible use environmental responsibility as a factor in their purchasing decisions.

The buyer can do this by:

- Identifying if the purchase is really necessary (to reduce consumption and carbon foot print).
- Consider the “whole life” cost of equipment purchases.
- Try and purchase products which may have a high recycled content.
- Where possible purchase goods and services which may be manufactured, used and disposed of in an environmentally responsible way.
- Use Preferred Suppliers to purchase their goods, these suppliers already have been assessed for their environmental policies.
- Support Supplier and College recycling schemes.
- Where possible recycle and re-used specific items (e.g. glassware).
- Reduce the use of volatile organic compounds where possible.
- Reduce the use of materials containing heavy metals where possible.
- Minimise the use of virgin materials.
- Control the discharge to air, land and water.

The purchasing department will:

- During the tendering process assess all potential suppliers on their environmental policies e.g. BS7750, EMAS, ISO4001.
- Continually monitor our major suppliers on their environmental policies and practices.
- Work with major suppliers to develop and share, where appropriate environmental policies.
- Where possible, offer environmentally friendly products as alternatives.
- Facilitate with the support of our major suppliers and other IC departments recycling arrangements across the college.
- Minimise the supplier base to reduce the college’s carbon foot print.