The University is a major purchaser of goods, services and works, buying from local, national and international suppliers. We are committed to responsible procurement, recognising what we spend and how we spend it has a significant impact, and we seek to follow best practice and deliver value for money while supporting the University’s strategic aims.

Our principles and commitments to our current and future suppliers are set out below:

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| **Our Principles** | **Our Commitments**  |
| **Accountability** | To publish clear evaluation criteria and use these to assess bids. To inform suppliers of decisions and notify all parties of outcomes of tenders and contracts. |
| **Competition**  | To advertise our requirements as appropriate to ensure access to our business and to encourage and find the best solutions to our needs. |
| **Consistency** | To apply the principles of best practice in all our dealings with suppliers. Internal regulations and procedures set standards to follow and provide guidelines of how and when competitive bids will be sought. |
| **Effectiveness** | To adopt processes appropriate to the requirement. We do not over or under specify our requirements and where applicable these will be referenced to recognised standards.  |
| **Efficiency** | To ensure ease of access to information and reduce or remove barriers to doing business with us. |
| **Fairness** | To treat suppliers fairly, equally and with courtesy, and only request necessary information from suppliers. |
| **Integration** | To align our approach with wider University strategy and policies as well as those of pan sector relevance such as social responsibility, sustainability and equality. |
| **Innovation** | To be open to challenge and new, or different ways of meeting our needs. |
| **Legal Compliance** | To conform to **all** relevant legislation including the Public Contracts Regulations and the Freedom of Information Act. We promote prompt payment for goods and services received. |
| **Responsibility** | To follow responsible procurement seeking to work with suppliers who practice the highest social and ethical standards within all their business operations and dealings. Where appropriate we will use external bodies to ensure minimum standards and provide supply chain due diligence. |
| **Responsiveness** | To provide named contacts for all tenders and contracts, and provide feedback to suppliers consistent with respecting others confidentiality and maintaining healthy competition. |
| **Transparency** | To be open and informative with suppliers and demonstrate the highest professional standards in conducting our business. |

In return we expect our suppliers to work honestly with us to demonstrate good supply chain practice making adjustments and improvements where required:

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| **Your Commitments**  |
| * Pursue your business activities responsibly with regard for social and ethical impacts; demonstrate it through robust governance and reporting.
* Respect us and our processes, abide by the rules of open competition; respect others rights and working conditions.
* Treat us fairly and equally; treat others fairly, support equality and encourage diversity in all their forms.
* Deliver competitive proposals and prices whilst meeting all necessary quality and safety requirements.
* Work with us to identify areas to remove costs and increase efficiency.
* Comply with **all** legal and statutory requirements; in terms of supply chain the highest standards of compliance with the Bribery Act 2010, The Modern Slavery Act 2015 and the Modern Slavery Act (Transparency in Supply Chains) Regulations 2015 are expected and good practice in terms of wages, conditions, fair payment etc. are strongly encouraged.
* Work to manage and mitigate economic, environmental and social impacts of our activities.
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