

5. Delivery



RESPONSIBLE PURCHASING

- Achieve Level 5 of the Flexible Framework.
- Engage internally to promote best practice.
- Engage externally to promote best practice.

We are a major purchaser of goods and services both locally, nationally and internationally. We:

- spend approximately £400m a year on non-pay;
- have around 8,000 suppliers;
- have over 3,000 devolved procurers.

Responsible purchasing is how we ensure that the environmental, social and economic impacts of what we buy are considered within the procurement process. Where the goods or services we purchase have negative impacts, we will reduce them, and where we have positive impacts, we will enhance them.

The current linear process of purchasing and disposal is unsustainable (Figure 5).

Figure 5: Purchasing: from production to disposal



It also leaves the University exposed to supply chain disruption, materials scarcity, reputational damage and escalating costs. We consider not only how we protect natural resources and reduce the negative impacts that products or services we buy have, but also how we can use our purchasing power to add value and maximise positive contributions too. As a large employer and purchaser we believe that it is important to take an active lead on responsible procurement. This means taking opportunities to

align our own approach with aspirations in our city for greater collective impact. We are ensuring our actions are compatible with those of close partner organisations, for example Manchester City Council.

We are a sector leader and are keen to share our progress with our peers as part of the professional groups we contribute to, sharing knowledge and learning as part of our commitment and approach.

Responsible purchasing, targets and baselines

	Baseline	Baseline year	2022 target
Achieve Level 5 of the Flexible Framework	Level 4	2014/15	Level 5

Responsible purchasing, actions and programmes

- **Supplier engagement:**
Continued use of the Net Positive supplier engagement tool, gathering data and stories to demonstrate impact and share best practice.
- **Flexible Framework:**
Continued work and implementation of processes to achieve and maintain level 5.

