



Reference	FOI 23.881	Date received:	19 October 2023
		Date responded:	15 November 2023
Your request			
<p>Pre-amble To enable care providers to work effectively with Local Authorities (LAs) to meet their Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) commitments, the following information request looks to establish key information critical for Adult Social Care (ASC) providers to support LA to meet those commitments.</p> <p>Questions Q1. Please provide your LA definition for “local” in regard to the procurement of goods and services. Note: if you do not have a specific definition, please offer guidance to ASC providers as to how they should consider this in regard to supporting your LA.</p> <p>Q2. Please provide your LA definition for “minority” in instances such as minority-owned businesses and similar contexts. Note: if you do not have a specific definition, please offer guidance to ASC providers as to how they should consider this in regard to supporting your LA.</p> <p>Q3. Please state any energy commitments your LA are implementing over the next 1-3 years, and what you require from ASC providers to help achieve your LA commitments to net zero carbon ambitions etc.</p> <p>Q4. Please can you provide a copy of, or a link to your current ESG policy statement, guidance, support and/or commitments or requirements as an LA.</p> <p>Q5. Please provide information relating to any requirements necessary in respect of ESG for ASC providers to work with your LA, and state any weighting or scoring this may have on your decision to work with such ASC providers now or in the future.</p>			
Council response			
<p>Q1. Please provide your LA definition for “local” in regard to the procurement of goods and services. Note: if you do not have a specific definition, please offer guidance to ASC providers as to how they should consider this in regard to supporting your LA. Local is suppliers that are based within the borough of South Tyneside and this done via postcode.</p> <p>Q2. Please provide your LA definition for “minority” in instances such as minority-owned businesses and similar contexts. Note: if you do not have a specific definition, please offer guidance to ASC providers as to how they should consider this in regard to supporting your LA. Suppliers are only classified by size such micro/small/medium and also if they form part of the Third Sector Organisation group.</p> <p>Q3. Please state any energy commitments your LA are implementing over the next 1-3 years, and what you require from ASC providers to help achieve your LA commitments to net zero carbon ambitions etc.</p>			



South Tyneside Council declared a climate emergency in 2019, setting a target of reaching carbon neutrality by 2030. The baseline year was set as 2018/19, and interim targets of a 25% reduction by 2023 and a 50% reduction by 2025 we also put in place. The first interim target has been achieved and South Tyneside Council remains committed to achieving the 50% reduction and carbon neutrality targets. This target covers scope 1 and 2 emissions resulting from Council operations. In addition, the Council is committed to a fully renewable electricity contract.

South Tyneside Council has also signed the UK100 Pledge, committing to do everything within our power and influence to rapidly reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and work with our residents and businesses to bring our wider communities' emissions in line with Net Zero as soon as possible.

Emissions resulting for the provision of third-party adult social care will also have an effect on the wider borough's emissions. Therefore, to assist the Council in achieving its own net zero commitments, providers are encouraged through procurement to develop a pathway to decarbonize their own operations.

Q4. Please can you provide a copy of, or a link to your current ESG policy statement, guidance, support and/or commitments or requirements as an LA.

We do not have an ESG Policy Statement.

Q5. Please provide information relating to any requirements necessary in respect of ESG for ASC providers to work with your LA and state any weighting or scoring this may have on your decision to work with such ASC providers now or in the future.

Not applicable.

Advice and Assistance

Not applicable

Attachments

None

Exemptions applied

None

Public Interest Test

Not applicable

Review procedure

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of this enquiry, you can ask for an independent review of your request. This should be sent to us within 4 weeks and must clearly state your reference number and reasons for requesting a review.

You can request a review via email at foi@southtyneside.gov.uk or can contact us at Information and Feedback Team, Town Hall and Civic Buildings, South Shields, NE33 2RL.

Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)

If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review process, you can write to the Information Commissioner to ask for an independent review.



Please note the ICO will only review cases that have exhausted the Council's internal review procedures. All correspondence to the ICO should quote the Council's reference number and your reasons for your appeal.

The ICO contact details are: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF. More information can be found on the ICO's website at www.ico.org.uk.

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Contact details

Information and Feedback Team

South Tyneside Council

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