

## Response to Request for Information

Reference: 2127597  
Date: 13/11/2023

### ***Local Authorities (LAs) to meet their Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) commitments.***

**Environmental, Social and Governance Freedom of Information Request.**

#### **Pre-ambble**

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.

#### **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.**

**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.**

**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. Emma**

**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.**

**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.**

Cambridgeshire County Council has now considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act. We can confirm that we do hold the information requested by you. Please find our response as set out below.

## **Environmental, Social and Governance Freedom of Information Request.**

### **Pre-ambble**

**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.**

### **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.**

In relation to delivery of social value, the council usually defines local as within the boundaries of Cambridgeshire County Council for relevant measures. The tender documents for each procurement set out the parameters for the definition of local where relevant.

**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.**

The council does not have a definition of “minority” in relation to procurement.

We do have a definition for marginalisation in our EDI Strategy:

Marginalisation describes both a process, and a condition, that prevents individuals or groups from full participation in social, economic and political life. As a condition, it can prevent individuals from actively participating. There is a multidimensional aspect, with social, economic and political barriers all contributing to the marginalisation of an individual or group of individuals. People can be marginalised due to multiple factors; sexual orientation, gender, geography, ethnicity, religion, displacement, conflict or disability. There are core factors that determine who or what groups are marginalised and what the barriers are that prevent them from being reached (UK Aid Direct definition of marginalisation).

**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.**

The Council has a target to see a 50% reduction in carbon emissions from our procured goods and services by 2030. For the Councils own properties, it already procures a zero carbon electricity tariff from its energy supplier and have several projects in place to both reduce energy consumption and generate renewable electricity.

We ask that all our suppliers support us to reach our carbon reduction targets and will likely include questions on how they will do this within the service they provide for us over the contract term as part of the evaluated tender process. The Council’s expectations of suppliers’ responses will likely be informed by soft market testing ahead of a tender launch.

**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.**

Q4 there is some info on our website:

The Councils Climate Change and Environment Strategy sets out our policy around these topics - <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/climate-change-energy-and-environment/climate-change-and-environment-strategy>

[Supplying to the Council - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

[Sustainable Procurement Strategy - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

**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.**

Information about how we apply social value and climate change to procurements can be found on our website: [Supplying to the Council - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

The criteria and weighting that we use depends on the nature of the contract and is set out in the tender documents for each procurement.

Q5 there is some info on our website:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/climate-change-energy-and-environment/climate-change-and-environment-strategy>

[Supplying to the Council - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

[Sustainable Procurement Strategy - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

## **Complaints**

I hope this information is helpful but if you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review, you should write to Information Management, at either [foi@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:foi@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or by post at Box No. SC02306, Cambridgeshire County Council, Scott House, 5 George Street, Huntingdon, PE29 3AD within 40 days of the date of this e-mail.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, or via their website: <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Generally, the ICO will not undertake a review or make a decision on a request until the internal review process has been completed.