

Dear Mr Rickatson

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - INFORMATION REQUEST - REF NO - FOIK3457

I refer to your request for information received on 20 October 2023 regarding ESG Commitments for ASC.

I have copied your request below and inserted our responses in **Bold**.

Request & Response

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 = organisations with a postcode within the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

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.*

We use ‘ethnic minorities’ to refer to all ethnic groups except the white British group. Ethnic minorities include white minorities, such as Gypsy, Roma and Irish Traveller groups.

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 Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames declared a climate emergency in 2019 and published a detailed Climate Action Plan in 2022 (available on the website). Key targets within these are that the Council aims to be net zero in its own operations by 2030 and to support the wider borough to be net zero by 2038. The council’s supply chain including ASC providers are included in this 2038 aim.

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.

Not aware of a single ESG policy but we have other policies/ framework that would cover elements. Such as the [Climate Action Plan](#), [Commissioning Strategy Framework](#), [Governance Framework](#) and [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy](#)

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.

Environmental - Tenders for services may require compliance with Public Contract Regulations Selection Questionnaire and or additional environmental considerations in relation to the services to be procured.

Social - Social Value would be included as part of the quality assessment of tenders as set out in RBK Contract & Tenders Regulations.

Governance - consideration would be given to any minimum statutory or regulatory service requirements in relation to services to be procured i.e CQC registration, DBS checks.

Tenders for services may require compliance with Public Contract Regulations Selection Questionnaire.

Regulations on the application of weightings is set out in RBK Contract & Tenders Regulations.

Evaluation and scoring methodology would be set out in the invitation to tender documents and would be relative to the services to be procured.

If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled you have the right to ask for an internal review. Please notify us in writing as soon as possible with the grounds upon which you feel the appeal is justified to : foi@kingston.gov.uk or by post to Customer Care, Guildhall 2, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 1EU

We aim to respond to you within 20 working days of receiving your request. If it is going to take longer we will let you know.

Should you still be dissatisfied with the outcome you have the right to refer to the Information Commissioner: Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely

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