

## Fraser Rickatson

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**From:** Foi Responses <Foi.Responses@merton.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 07 December 2023 10:04  
**To:** Fraser Rickatson  
**Subject:** Response to FOI F19152

Dear Fraser Rickatson

### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - INFORMATION REQUEST

We have now considered your request for information as set out in your email below.

#### Our response:

#### On the assumption that ESG stands for Environment, Social and Governance, and ASC stands for Adult Social Care:

**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.

*A1. In general procurement terms, “local” would be providers based within the borough.*

**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.

*Q2. In general procurement terms, “minority” in instances such as ‘minority-owned businesses’, would be businesses where at least half their management team are from a minority group.*

**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.

*Merton has committed to being a net zero carbon council by 2030 and a net zero carbon borough by 2050. Please see Merton’s Climate Strategy and Action Plan*

*(<https://www.merton.gov.uk/system/files?file=draft20climate20strategy20and20action20plan20-20council20v2.pdf>) and Merton’s Climate Delivery Plan for Year 3*

*(<https://www.merton.gov.uk/system/files/Merton%20Climate%20Delivery%20Yr3%2003.03.23.pdf>) for details of how we intend to work with partners and service providers towards these targets. For any procurement exercise an Invitation to Tender document would tailor the requirements to the specific contract being commissioned.*

**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 Please see: [Contracts, tenders and procurement : Procurement strategy | Merton 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 provider now or in the future.

*The requirements for environmental, social and corporate governance are decided on a tender by tender basis. For tenders over £100,000, a minimum 5% is recommended for social value. Please also see: [Contracts, tenders and procurement | Merton Council](#)*

If you have any queries or concerns about this please contact me.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request or wish to appeal against the decision to exempt any part of your request, you should request an Internal Review at [foi@merton.gov.uk](mailto:foi@merton.gov.uk) or write in to Freedom of Information team, Merton Council, Civic Centre, Morden, SM4 5DX.

If you escalate to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) without following the council’s internal review process, the ICO will refer you back to the council to enable the correct process to be followed.

You can also appeal to the Information Commissioner at: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/official-information-concerns-report/official-information-concern/>

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Kind regards

Michael Cook

Michael Cook  
Information Governance Officer  
Information Governance Team  
Merton Council  
[www.merton.gov.uk](http://www.merton.gov.uk)

IMPORTANT - PERSONAL

**From:** Fraser Rickatson <[Frickatson@careengland.org.uk](mailto:Frickatson@careengland.org.uk)>

**Sent:** 19 October 2023 11:41

**Subject:** Freedom of Information Request

To whom it may concern,

Please find the attached FOI for your attention.

For convenience, I have also shared the request in the below:

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

**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.

**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.
- 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.

Kind regards,

Fraser

**Fraser Rickatson**

Policy and Public Sector Officer

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