

Social Value Act 2012

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1. What is Social Value

- 1.1. "Social Value" is a way of thinking about how scarce resources are allocated and used. It involves looking beyond the price of each individual contract and looking at what the collective benefit to a community is when a public body chooses to award a contract. It is the additional benefit to the community from a procurement process over and above the direct purchasing of goods, services and outcomes.
- 1.2. The Act applies to all public service contracts with an element of goods services or works over the EU threshold. Oxford Brookes University is required to factor Social Value in to the pre-procurement phase allowing procurement to embed Social Value in the design of the service from the outset. This Act will improve the accountability of policy and spending decisions, in terms of the full Social Value they create.
- 1.3. Oxford Brookes University will be inclusive of all suppliers including but not limited to; BMEs, SMEs, Social Enterprises, Supported Businesses and Sole Proprietorships.

2. Oxford Brookes University's Aims

- 2.1. Oxford Brookes University is aim to encourage business growth and participate in a variety of initiatives which seek to benefit the surrounding community as well as students and staff pf Oxford Brookes University.
- 2.2. Oxford Brookes University aims to embed Social Value into its remit via effective procurement practices.
- 2.3. Oxford Brookes University aim to secure a senior Sponsor and Champion to ensure that Social Value is pioneered within Oxford Brookes University.

3. Strategies and Procedures

- 3.1. Procurement will embed and adopt Social Value into its procurement policy. It will intend to encompass areas such as compliance, training, ethics, and monitoring, managing and reporting.
- 3.2. In order for Social Value to achieve maximum benefits and value added for all, procurement and stakeholders need to ensure that Social Value is considered at the pre procurement phase including commissioning, needs analysis and stakeholder and marketplace engagement.
- 3.3. Oxford Brookes University will consider Social Value as part of the contract's subject matter reflected in the specification. These criteria will be evaluated in the same way as any other element which forms a part of the procurement exercise.
- 3.4. Effective contract management and support is to be encouraged in order to achieve maximum benefits and value added for Oxford Brookes University, the suppliers and the communities.

4. Benefits and Value Added

4.1. This approach seeks to create maximum benefit for both Oxford Brookes University and the community and drive up service quality as well as cross-departmental savings and support for community organisations.

4.1.1. Economy and Savings:

- 4.1.1.1. Expenditure within local economies
- 4.1.1.2. Supporting the creation of new businesses within communities throughout the supply chain

4.1.2. Environment and Sustainability:

- 4.1.2.1. Reduce carbon emissions due to reduced transportation
- 4.1.2.2. Reducing energy consumption
- 4.1.2.3. Localise service delivery to reduce access and distance times
- 4.1.2.4. Reducing the level of landfill waste

4.1.3. Community and People:

- 4.1.3.1. Influence local economic growth and well-being by addressing local challenges.
- 4.1.3.2. Using local suppliers to provide services can create employment opportunities.
- 4.1.3.3. Encourages community engagement and cohesion.
- 4.1.3.4. Encourages the use of apprenticeships and training programmes in procurement contracts.

4.1.4. Ethics:

- 4.1.4.1. Reduce barriers to market entry
- 4.1.4.2. Encourages transparent tendering processes
- 4.1.4.3. Actively promotes equality of opportunities and tackling inequality
- 4.1.4.4. Employment support in vulnerable areas

4.1.5. Support:

- 4.1.5.1. Best placed to understand Oxford Brookes University's needs.
- 4.1.5.2. Can deliver personalised services and reach those most in need of support.
- 4.1.5.3. Unifies economic, social and environmental objectives and embeds them across all strategic procurement activities.