

## Environmental Measures

### Q1 Wellbeing, Carbon Reduction and Climate Literacy

[Scotland's Climate Change commitments](#) and Aberdeenshire Council's own [aspirations and commitments](#) towards a [just transition](#) to a net-zero, green, wellbeing economy represent key local and national priorities. Local authorities have a leadership role at a local/regional level in terms of responding to the challenges presented by climate change. Through **partnership working** with local key influencers such as [Scarf](#) or equivalent body capable of providing independent verification to an acceptable standard, the Council is looking to provide a supportive culture whereby our suppliers can look to make financial savings and improve business performance and resilience through reducing carbon, developing more sustainable business models/ways of operating and making more sustainable choices. This approach is designed to make a positive, incremental impact on the performance, innovation and sustainability of our local economy and the climate emergency at a local level across our portfolio of contracts.

In meeting this requirement, bidders are expected to make best calculated efforts to identify:

- 1) carbon the business creates in key areas impacting on contract performance
- 2) steps the business is taking or plans to take in terms of achieving net-zero/decarbonisation of the supply chain and
- 3) relevant actions the business will take throughout the life of the contract to minimise harmful carbon impacts during performance.

A good response will outline general current practice and future plans in areas that directly impact on contract performance (e.g..*energy efficiency in buildings, emissions class of fleet vehicles, effective route planning measures, energy/fuel efficiency measures in buildings/vehicles/operations, minimisation of waste, circular economy initiatives, reuse of materials, carbon neutrality initiatives, reduction of material/ packaging/reduced plastic content of packaging, avoidance of single use plastics etc*).

Bidders are required to address factors relevant to contract performance and strongly encouraged to volunteer information and good practice throughout the life of the contract in the suggested areas of relevance, explore opportunities to reduce carbon, explore financial savings and provide evidence of incremental steps taken towards the supplier (and wider supply chain) making more sustainable choices in partnership with local key influencers such as [Scarf](#) or equivalent body capable of providing independent verification to an acceptable standard. Contract management will require the supplier to provide an **Annual Report** (form and content to be agreed) co-operate with the Council in terms of environmental/emissions/climate performance levels that serve to reduce harmful emissions during the life of the contract, evidence how good practice has been cascaded throughout the supply chain and demonstrate good practice in terms of environmental sustainability.

**Specified Benefit:** Outline current practice and future plans in areas that directly impact on contract performance under the contract e.g..*energy efficiency in buildings, emissions class of fleet vehicles, effective route planning measures, energy/fuel efficiency measures in buildings/vehicles/operations, minimisation of waste, circular economy initiatives, reuse of materials, carbon neutrality initiatives, reduction of material/ packaging/reduced plastic content of packaging, avoidance of single use plastics etc*. Commit to providing an **Annual Report** (form and content to be agreed) and confirm co-operation with the Council in terms of Climate Change duties, environmental/emissions/climate performance levels that serve to reduce harmful emissions, evidence how good practice has been cascaded throughout the supply chain, update on progress during the life of the contract and demonstrate continually improving good practice in terms of environmental sustainability.

## **Q1 Bidder Prompts (Evaluation)**

### **Environmental Wellbeing, Carbon Reduction and Climate Literacy**

Broadly outline information already routinely produced in areas that directly impact directly on performance under the contract (e.g. *e.g..energy efficiency in buildings, emissions class of fleet vehicles, effective route planning measures, energy/fuel efficiency measures in buildings/vehicles/operations, minimisation of waste, circular economy initiatives, reuse of materials, carbon neutrality initiatives, reduction of material/ packaging/reduced plastic content of packaging, avoidance of single use plastics etc.*), indicate understanding of requirements (including Annual Report) and willingness to provide information relating to environmental/emissions/climate performance levels that serve to reduce harmful emissions, update on progress during the life of the contract and demonstrate continually improving good practice in terms of environmental sustainability.

**Contract Management/Validation Requirements:** Annual Report (form and content to be agreed) if called upon to co-operate with the Council, respond within 21 days and supply required information. Contract management will require information relating to

- 1) environmental/emissions/climate performance levels that serve to reduce harmful emissions,
- 2) updates on progress re planned activities during the life of the contract,
- 3) evidence demonstrating continually improving good practice in terms of environmental sustainability, incremental steps taken towards the supplier (and wider supply chain) making more sustainable choices and
- 4) engagement with [Scarf](#) or equivalent body capable of providing independent verification to an acceptable standard in areas including: *reduce carbon, financial savings resulting from carbon reduction and verified evidence of incremental steps taken towards developing more sustainable business models/ways of operating and making more sustainable organisational choices.*

## **Q2- Environmental Measures (Fuel Poverty & Climate Literacy)**

In addressing this benefit type, the Council is looking to make a positive impact on fuel poverty (domestic and commercial) at a local level through **early intervention/prevention** and **partnership working** with local key influencers such as [Scarf](#). **In the context of Covid 19, it is acceptable for requirements to be met “virtually” if health and safety regulations/national guidance does not permit activities to be fulfilled in person.** At a consumer level, this could embrace working with local key influencers to explore creative ways of promoting help and advice to householders which could make domestic properties more energy efficient and reduce fuel bills. At a commercial level, local businesses could (in partnership with key influencers) be helped to reduce fuel and energy bills, improve their environmental and wider sustainability credentials and promote a culture of sharing good practice in terms of climate literacy. At these public events, the preferred bidder would be expected to communicate steps they have taken and plan to take in terms of successfully cascading good practice and positive messaging re circular economy/reduced carbon footprint etc to their wider supply chain.

**Supplementary Benefit:** Engage and work in partnership with key local influencers such as [Scarf](#) to contribute to X **or more events or activities** designed to alleviate fuel poverty (domestic and commercial) through early intervention/prevention and partnership working.

## **Q2 Bidder Prompts (Evaluation)**

### **Environmental Measures (Fuel Poverty & Climate Literacy)**

Confirm required number of activities (**X**) shall be provided (virtually or in person on the theme of positively impacting on fuel poverty (domestic and commercial) at a local level through **early intervention/prevention** and **partnership working** with local key influencers such as [Scarf](#). Clearly specify any additional activities that will be offered. Indicate intended approach to delivery and fully address/describe:

- i)** All activities proposed and whether it is proposed the bidder will take a leading or supporting role...it is acceptable to liaise with local key influencers (such as [Scarf](#)) and be guided by them as to proposed activity content.
- ii)** Whether it is envisaged that activities will focus on fuel poverty at a consumer or commercial level (or both) and how the activities will be underpinned by the principles of **early intervention and prevention**.
- iii)** How the proposed activities will impact positively on local consumers/the local business community.
- iv)** Whether more than the stated number of activities will be offered, providing a brief description of those activities indicating clearly whether the activities are targeted at the domestic or commercial market.
- v)** Anticipated outcomes outlining how agency support (such as that identified in Section 2) will be engaged with in meeting the requirement.
  
- vi)** Measures and solutions to facilitate virtual engagement activities.

**Contract Management/Validation Requirements:** Supplier declaration to include details of activities delivered, numbers attending with confirmation from any partner/key influencer organisation (such as **Scarf**)