



# Responsible Procurement Mid-Year Impact Report

2024



# Taking stock

**In Responsible Procurement, taking stock of things is a big part of what we do at City of London Corporation – literally!**

This year, we decided to give taking stock a whole new meaning: we published our first-ever **Responsible Procurement Impact Report, 2023-2024**. It allowed us to reflect on the critical question, “What does good look like to us?”. And it established the beginning of our reporting journey – a baseline from which we could learn, grow, and if successful, inspire exponential positive impact across our supply chain.

In the spirit of taking stock, we decided to take a look at how we are doing so far. By checking in en route to our 2024-2025 report, we are giving ourselves an important opportunity to confirm we are heading in the right direction, and course correct if needed.

This mid-year update proudly presents the progress we have made toward the goals set forth in our 2023-2024 report. We’re excited to share the work that is already underway to create real, responsible impact that reflects our commitment to environmental sustainability, social value, and ethical sourcing.

**City of London Corporation  
Responsible Procurement Team**



[▶ View our 2023-2024 Impact Report](#)

# What we said we'd do, what we've done

---

In our 2023-2024 Impact Report, we committed to cultivating Better Data, Better Involvement, and Better Connection in line with the City Corporation Corporate Plan 2024-2029. Here's how we have delivered on that commitment so far.

## Better Data

---

### 2023-2024 Promise

- Building on the data collection foundations we laid in 2023-2024, leveraging insights to drive impactful decisions
- Involving more contract managers and suppliers in reporting on their impact to deepen their understanding
- Using data to inform our buying processes and guide conversations that support community impact

### Progress

- Began sharing our 2023-2024 Impact Report far and wide, including with 400 contract managers across the City Corporation
- Reviewed our contracts for responsible procurement commitments and created a catalogue of findings. These are being shared with our colleagues delivering for our communities to make connections
- Welcomed four new Impact & Reporting team members to support the creation of a reporting framework and provide data insights

# Better Involvement

---

## 2023-2024 Promise

- Working more closely with our contract managers to ensure that Responsible Procurement continues to extend its impact beyond our central team
- Providing training and resources to support contract managers in fulfilling commitments
- Strengthening contract managers confidence in their ability to make a positive impact on the community they serve

# Better Connection

---

## 2023-2024 Promise

- Deepening our connections with residents, communities and businesses through the City Corporation's SEND Employment Forum
- Engaging more SMEs and diverse suppliers for climate action support and supply chain access
- Connecting our suppliers with charities and partners for greater community impact

## Progress

- Ran a Responsible Procurement Refresh Series to refresh officers on our commitments and provide examples of delivering on them with suppliers and contract managers; 116 officers attended at least one live session
- Prepared an updated Modern Slavery Statement for publication by the end of 2024. The updated statement includes information on our supply chain and specific actions we've taken; such as, assessing and scoring the modern slavery statements of 40 of our top suppliers. We will engage with suppliers to improve their modern slavery approach.
- Provided Just Transition training to six of our top suppliers in line with our Climate Action Strategy, which supports taking climate action that does not marginalise people or violate human rights; Applied funding toward identifying practical actions aligned with a Just Transition that our top suppliers can take in both this and subsequent years

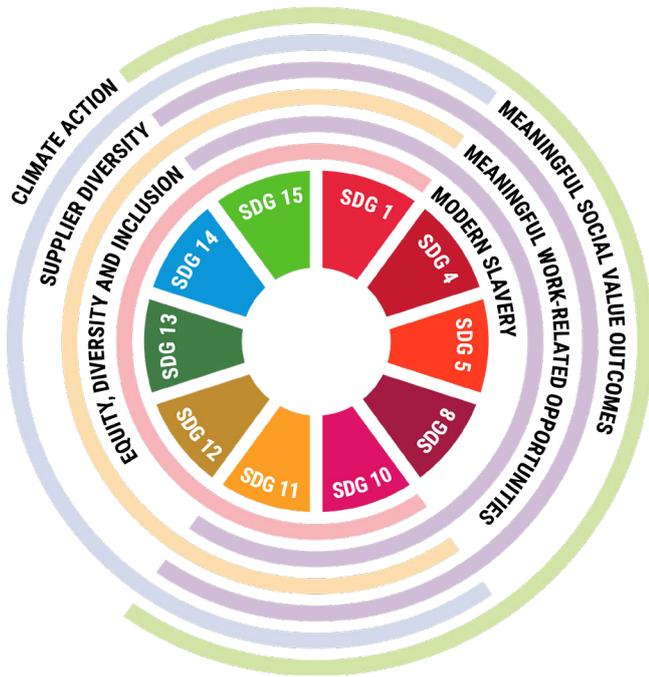
## Progress

- Worked closely with the Community & Children Services team on the Community Day event and jobs fair, with Ongoing support for Digital Skills, Retrofit, City Support (UKSPF)
- Connected our suppliers with **Hackney Giving** to facilitate the donation of goods and services to City and Hackney-based community groups
- Worked with **Heart of the City** to enhance their 4 Steps to Climate Action provision for SMEs and create a soon-to-launch 'sprint' course, which will more than halve the time needed to complete the programme; Four SMEs from our supply chain participated in their standard course this September.

# Our Six Supply Chain Commitments

In line with the **UN Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs), which recognise that true sustainability requires a multi-layered approach, our **six supply chain commitments** depicted below hold our department accountable to the environment, people near and far, and the betterment of our society through the engagement of our partners.

As we continue to make progress in the assessment of our impact, we are pleased to see our suppliers realising a number of commitments through their respective initiatives – sometimes multiple commitments at once! Some of our suppliers have even joined forces to have a greater impact together.



-  CA Climate Action
-  SD Supplier Diversity
-  EDI Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
-  MS Modern Slavery
-  WRO Meaningful Work-Related Opportunities
-  SV Meaningful Social Value Outcomes

The interconnectedness of both our commitments and our supply chain shows a multi-layered approach to sustainability in action. For example:

- **OCS** promoting gender diversity and local youth employment, realising **Equity Diversity Inclusion** and **Meaningful Work-Related Opportunities**
  - **Avarni** supporting improved carbon emissions data across our supply chain, realising **Climate Action** and **Supplier Diversity**
  - **Parkguard Ltd, Marston Holdings, CBRE, FM Conway and the London Construction Academy, OCS and BM Caterers** participating in a job fair and providing career advice, realising **Meaningful Work-Related Opportunities** and **Meaningful Social Value**
- ▶ For more information about our **Six Supply Chain Commitments**, view our 2023-2024 report.



# Supplier Spotlights



As part of our Climate Action Strategy, we are improving the accuracy of our scope three carbon footprint with the help of **Avarni** carbon accounting software. We are working with our top carbon emitting suppliers under Purchased Goods and Services to move from spend-based emissions data to supplier-specific emissions, this allows us to identify carbon savings made through working with suppliers who take climate action. In May, 41 suppliers participated in our annual foot printing process. 27 suppliers (including four SMEs!) provided enough data that we could replace their spend-based data with contract-specific emissions data. The combination of more accurate data and carbon saving activities by our suppliers accounted for a 14% reduction in our Scope 3 carbon emissions overall.



In October, our security and facilities management supplier **ISS** delivered training to City Corporation employees on supporting neurodivergent people at work. This was advertised through our Disability, Ability and Wellness employee network (DAWN). Ten members of staff including members of our Facilities Operations team were trained. Facilities are meeting with DAWN to discuss practical changes that can make our Guildhall offices more inclusive. ISS will support this review with examples from their Canary Wharf offices.



In recognition of the underrepresentation of women in technical roles, our facilities management partner **OCS** launched an initiative to recruit female technical apprentices for our London sites. Partnering with a local employability provider, OCS was able to offer Bermondsey resident Mahaylia an electrical apprenticeship at the iconic Guildhall School of Music and Dance. Through this recruitment, OCS is directly contributing to youth employment in London, gender diversity in engineering and technical roles, and local community development.



Earlier this year, ethnic minority-owned SME **Bell Lifts** won our most recent contract to work on a City Corporation publicly accessible lift close to Liverpool Street Station. Lift modernisation is an important part of keeping our sites maintained and accessible for all users. The City Corporation's Senior Principal Engineer for Lifts has been actively scouring new independent lift contractors to increase the diversity of suppliers bidding for contracts. This includes site visits and assessing the suitability of a supplier's standards before inviting them to quote for projects.



## Learning & Working in the City

Come along and find out more about our exciting range of courses, take part in taster sessions and meet employers with lots of job vacancies.



This spotlight is extra special because it shows how seven of our suppliers, **Parkguard Ltd**, **Marston Holdings**, **CBRE**, **FM Conway** and the **London Construction Academy**, **OCS** and **BM Caterers**, worked together toward achieving our commitments! In July, our Community & Children Services department hosted an Adult Learning, Employment and Skills Event to launch their new learning prospectus. The event included a jobs fair, which these suppliers supported by presenting entry level jobs to the job seekers in attendance. Additionally, some of these suppliers have followed up with telephone interviews and by providing career advice. Teamwork makes the dream work!



We recruit temporary labour through a main contractor, **Hays**. While they can provide most of the resources we need, there will always be specialised officers required. To fill these gaps when they arise, Hays works with smaller, niche recruitment companies to help us access the talent we need quickly and compliantly. To support our commitment to supplier diversity, Hays has onboarded six ethnic minority-owned recruitment agencies introduced to us through **MSDUK** (a supplier diversity advocacy group) that can meet our specialised needs.





# What's coming next?

---

For more supplier spotlights as well as a full suite of statistics, stay tuned for our upcoming **2024-2025 Annual Impact Report**.

# Lisa Moore

**Responsible Procurement Manager**

City of London Corporation

[lisa.moore@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.moore@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

[cityoflondon.gov.uk](http://cityoflondon.gov.uk)



Created with [defy-brands.com](http://defy-brands.com)

Ethnic-Minority Supplier

