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Sustainable procurement policy

1 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Eakin Healthcare recognise the importance of sustainable procurement practices in *'meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.'* This policy outlines our commitment to integrating sustainability principles into our procurement practices so that we can achieve balance between environmental, social and economic priorities that avoids significant trade-offs for any single pillar of sustainability. Eakin believe that this process will enable us to sustain the delivery of high-quality products and services long into the future.

2 2. SCOPE

- 2.1 This policy applies to all procurement activities conducted by Eakin Healthcare, including but not limited to the acquisition of goods, services, and works, as well as supplier selection, contract management, and supplier relationship management.

3 3. PRINCIPLES

3.1 Environmental responsibility:

- 3.1.1 We will adopt procurement practices that limit our impact on the Earth's planetary boundaries.
- 3.1.2 We will select suppliers who demonstrate a commitment to environmental sustainability through their operations, products, and supply chain practices.
- 3.1.3 We will prioritise suppliers, products & services that minimise pollution risk, reduce resource extraction, promote a circular economy & limit our climate impact.

3.2 Social responsibility:

- 3.2.1 We will uphold human rights, labour rights, and fair labour practices throughout our supply chain.
- 3.2.2 We will select suppliers who demonstrate exemplary labour standards, safe working conditions, fair wages, and worker's rights.
- 3.2.3 We will prioritise suppliers, products & services that promote the principals of zero harm for our suppliers' employees, our colleagues & our customers.

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3.3 Ethical conduct:

- 3.3.1 We expect all suppliers to adhere to ethical business practices, including transparency, integrity, and compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.
- 3.3.2 We will conduct due diligence to ensure that our suppliers uphold ethical standards and avoid engaging in activities that may harm society or the environment.

3.4 Economic development:

- 3.4.1 We will support local economies and communities by giving preference to local suppliers and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) where it is ethical & feasible to do so.
- 3.4.2 We will prioritise suppliers who enhance social capital, promote positive values and contribute to a sense of purpose within the communities they serve.

4 IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Supplier prerequisites

- 4.1.1 We require suppliers to:
 - Comply with our supplier Code of Conduct.
 - Comply with our Modern Slavery statement.

4.2 4.2. Supplier selection:

- 4.2.1 We will favour suppliers who have incorporated sustainability principals into their strategies, operations and/or supply chain, such as United Nation Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).
- 4.2.2 We will favour suppliers who report their environmental performance in line with recognised standards, such as Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG) and/or Global Reporting Initiative (GRI).
- 4.2.3 We will favour suppliers whose operations are compliant against recognised environmental sustainability certifications for example ISO14001 Environmental Management Systems (EMS).
- 4.2.4 We will favour suppliers whose operations have been scored under the Ecovadis sustainability assessment with increasing preference to suppliers who have scored highly in the assessment.

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- 4.2.5 We will favour suppliers who have committed to recognised sustainability programmes such as United Nations Global Compact and/or Science Based Targets (SBTi).
- 4.2.6 We will favour products with recognised environmental / supply chain product declarations or certificates such as Forestry Stewardship Certification (FSC) and/or ISO14025 Type III Environmental Declaration (EPD).
- 4.2.7 We will favour suppliers whose operations are compliant against recognised social sustainability certifications such as ISO45001 Occupational health and safety systems (OH&S).
- 4.2.8 We will favour suppliers whose operations are compliant against recognised quality certifications such as ISO9001 Quality Management Systems (QMS).

4.3 Contract management:

- 4.3.1 We will integrate environmental & social clauses in our contracts which outline our expectations regarding environmental and social responsibility, ethical conduct, and compliance with applicable regulations.
- 4.3.2 We will monitor supplier performance against sustainability criteria through periodic Ecovadis assessments and provide feedback for improvement where necessary.
- 4.3.3 We will require suppliers of raw materials, packaging, finished goods, downstream logistics & construction services to provide consumption data relating to sustainability at pre-agreed intervals, such as material weights, volumes and specifications.

4.4 Supplier relationship management:

- 4.4.1 We will foster open communication and collaboration with suppliers to promote shared sustainability goals and initiatives through our supplier relationship management program.
- 4.4.2 We will provide support and resources to help suppliers improve their sustainability performance and practices.

4.5 Continuous improvement:

- 4.5.1 We will regularly review and update this policy to reflect emerging sustainability trends, best practices, and stakeholder expectations.
- 4.5.2 We will monitor and measure the effectiveness of our sustainable procurement efforts and implement corrective actions as needed.

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5 5. COMPLIANCE AND REPORTING

5.1 Compliance:

5.1.1 All employees involved in procurement activities are expected to comply with this policy and associated procedures.

5.2 Reporting:

5.2.1 We will regularly report on sustainable procurement performance, including progress toward sustainability goals, key achievements, challenges, and areas for improvement.

5.2.2 We will be transparent with key internal stakeholders and disclose relevant sustainability information, such as supplier sustainability ratings and initiatives.

5.2.3 We will provide regular feedback to suppliers via Supplier Relationship Management.

6 CONCLUSION

6.1 Eakin Healthcare is committed to integrating sustainability principals into every aspect of our operations, including procurement. By adhering to this policy and working collaboratively with our suppliers, we strive to create a more sustainable future for our company, our stakeholders, and the planet.

Signed: 

Date: 01-May-2025

David Jones, Head of Procurement