



Department of
Finance

An Roinn

Airgeadais

Case Study 2023/2024

**Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS)
The Provision of Dry Recycling Services**

PPN 01/21 Social Value

PPN 05/21 Human Rights in Public Procurement

**Including
Real Living Wage**

PPN 01/21 – Social Value

PPN 05/21 – Human Rights in Public Procurement

The Provision of Dry Recycling Services to the Northern Ireland Public Sector

Project Description

Supplies and Services Division (SSD) facilitated the competition for a Contractor to deliver dry recycling services throughout the NICS estate and wider public sector.

In 2023 RiverRidge Recycling Portadown Ltd. were awarded the contract.

Contract clients include: - NICS Departments, their Agencies and Non-Departmental Public Bodies (NDPBs), and several Centres of Procurement Expertise (CoPEs).

The contract commenced on 1st November 2023, and was awarded for an initial period of 4 years, with options to extend for up to 36 months, and with an award value of approx. £2m.

SSD ensured that a human rights-based approach was incorporated through the award criteria and embedded in the contract management schedule of the contract.

Actions

The methodology for the evaluation of tenders included scoring of Social Value evaluated at 10.5% of the overall weighting (35% of the qualitative weighting).

Fair Working Practices were assessed by the evaluation panel as an award criterion on a PASS/FAIL basis.

Key contract terms included:

Fair Working Practices

The contractor was required to:

- Promote the stability of employment and hours of work, and avoid exploitative employment practices, including for example no inappropriate use of zero hours contracts; and
- Support progressive workforce engagement, for example Trade Union recognition and representation where possible, otherwise alternative arrangements to give staff an effective voice.
- Nurture talent and help individuals fulfil their potential, including for example, promoting equality of opportunity and developing a workforce which reflects characteristics such as age, gender, religion or belief, race, sexual orientation and disability;
- Support the learning and development of its employees;
- Have in place a fair and equal pay policy that includes a commitment to supporting the Living Wage.

Real Living Wage

The Contractor was mandated to pay the real living wage to its employees delivering the contract and ensure that the Living Wage Foundation rates were applied throughout the contract period. i.e. all employees operating on the contract must receive an hourly rate of pay equal to or greater than the Real Living Wage.

Supply Chain

The contractor was encouraged to work with small suppliers (i.e. less than 50 employees); micro suppliers (i.e. less than 10 employees) or Social Enterprises throughout their supply chain.

Environmental

The Contractor was required to comply with local management controls in respect of waste management and energy conservation. At Contract commencement, the Contractor was required to have in place and maintain external accreditation for their Environmental Management System.

The Contractor was required to reduce environmental impact by using the most efficient routes in delivery of Services; switching engines off when vehicles are stationary on a delivery of service for longer than 2 minutes; maximise the use of fuel-efficient vehicles, e.g. LPG. Biodiesel.

Additional Social Value

The Contractor was required to deliver additional environmental benefits in the performance of the contract including working towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions.

The evaluation panel assessed the Contractor's response to the social value criterion and scored the response based on the proposal and methodology including the activities; timescales, resources, stakeholder engagement and monitoring throughout the contract period.