

Procurement and the circular economy

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Our vision is a world in which resources are used sustainably.

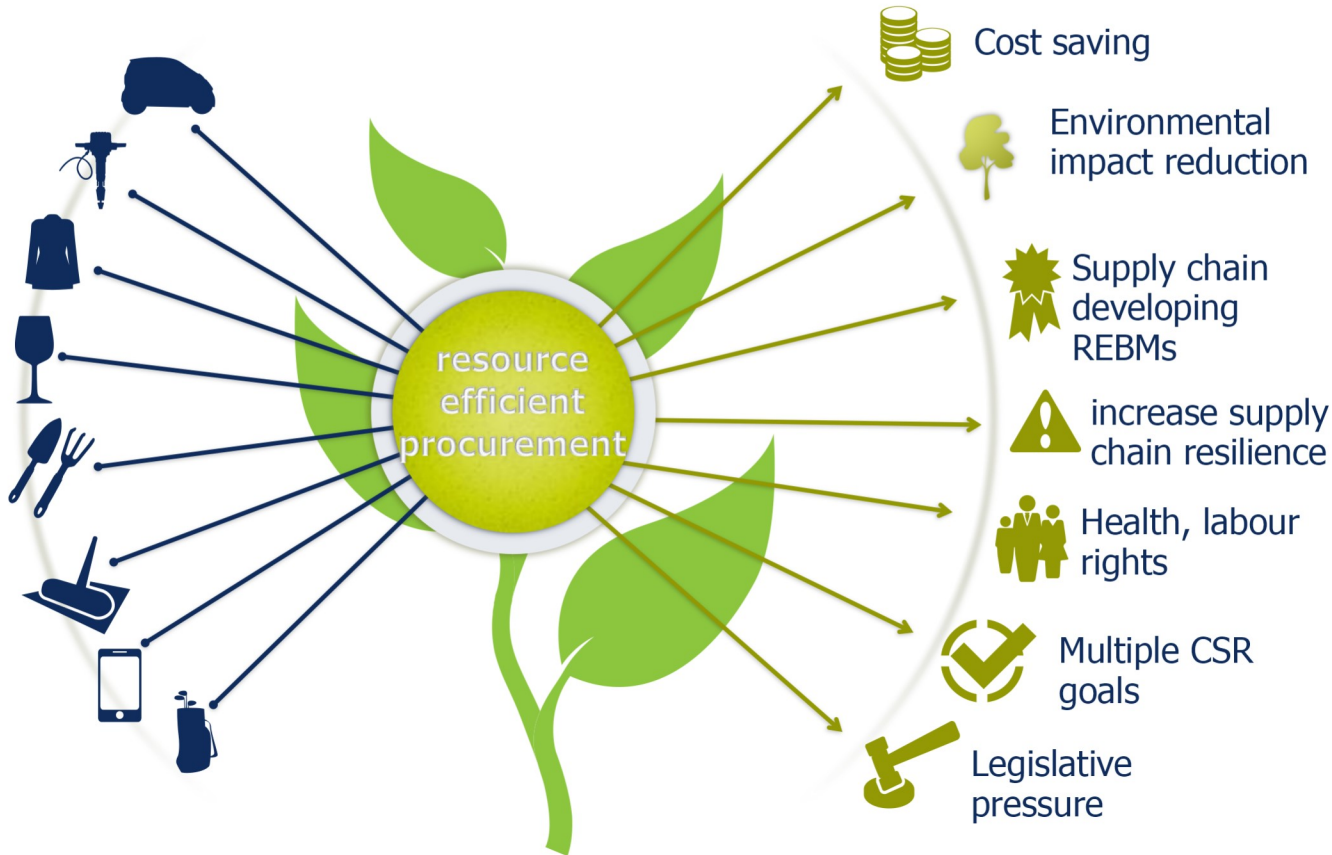
Our mission is to accelerate the move to a sustainable resource-efficient economy through re-inventing how we design, produce and sell products, re-thinking how we use and consume products, and re-defining what is possible through recycling and re-use.

Valuing products differently and creating a more robust economy in the process:

- Design
- Make
- Sell
- Reuse products
- Recycle

Maximise value during use and at end of life

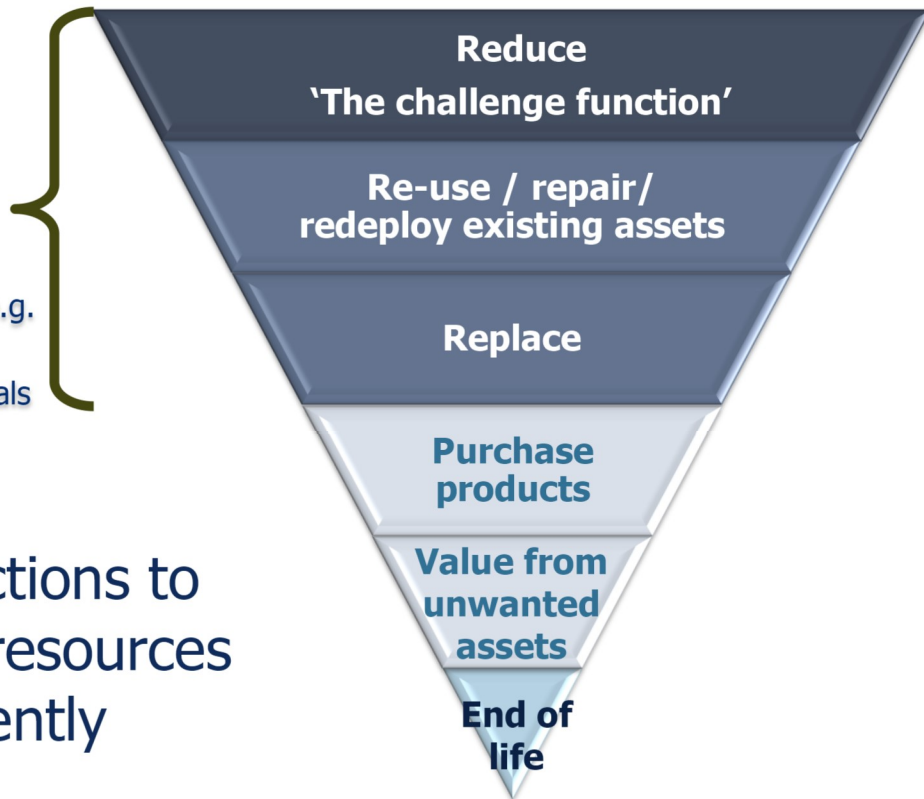
Sustainable procurement benefits



Hierarchy of actions for procurement

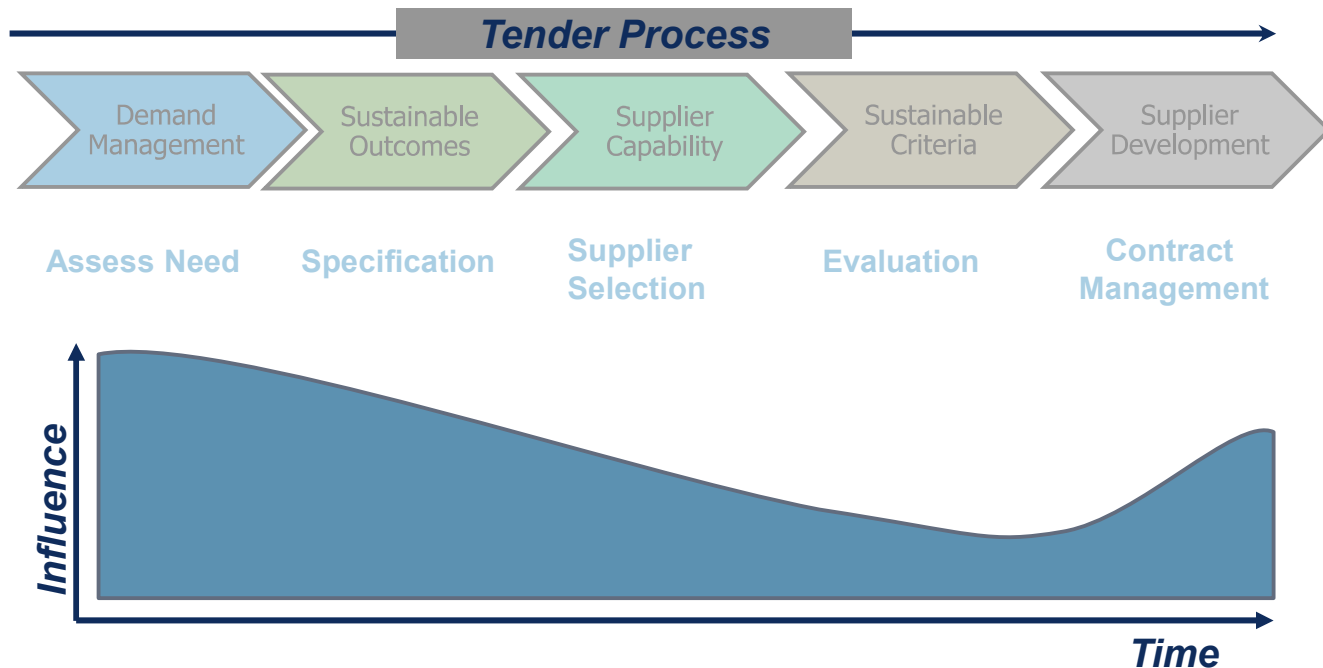
Specifications for:

- durability
- re-usability
- used products
- lower in-use impacts
- lower production impacts, e.g. materials content
- minimize hazardous chemicals



Hierarchy of actions to use assets and resources more efficiently

Influencing the market



The greatest impact can be made in the early stages of procurement and commissioning. Note the opportunities during the life of the contract too.

Uncovering hidden contract costs



Technical:

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- Need to be a technical expert
- Detailed explanation of requirements
- Tell the market precisely what you want
- Get precisely what you specify

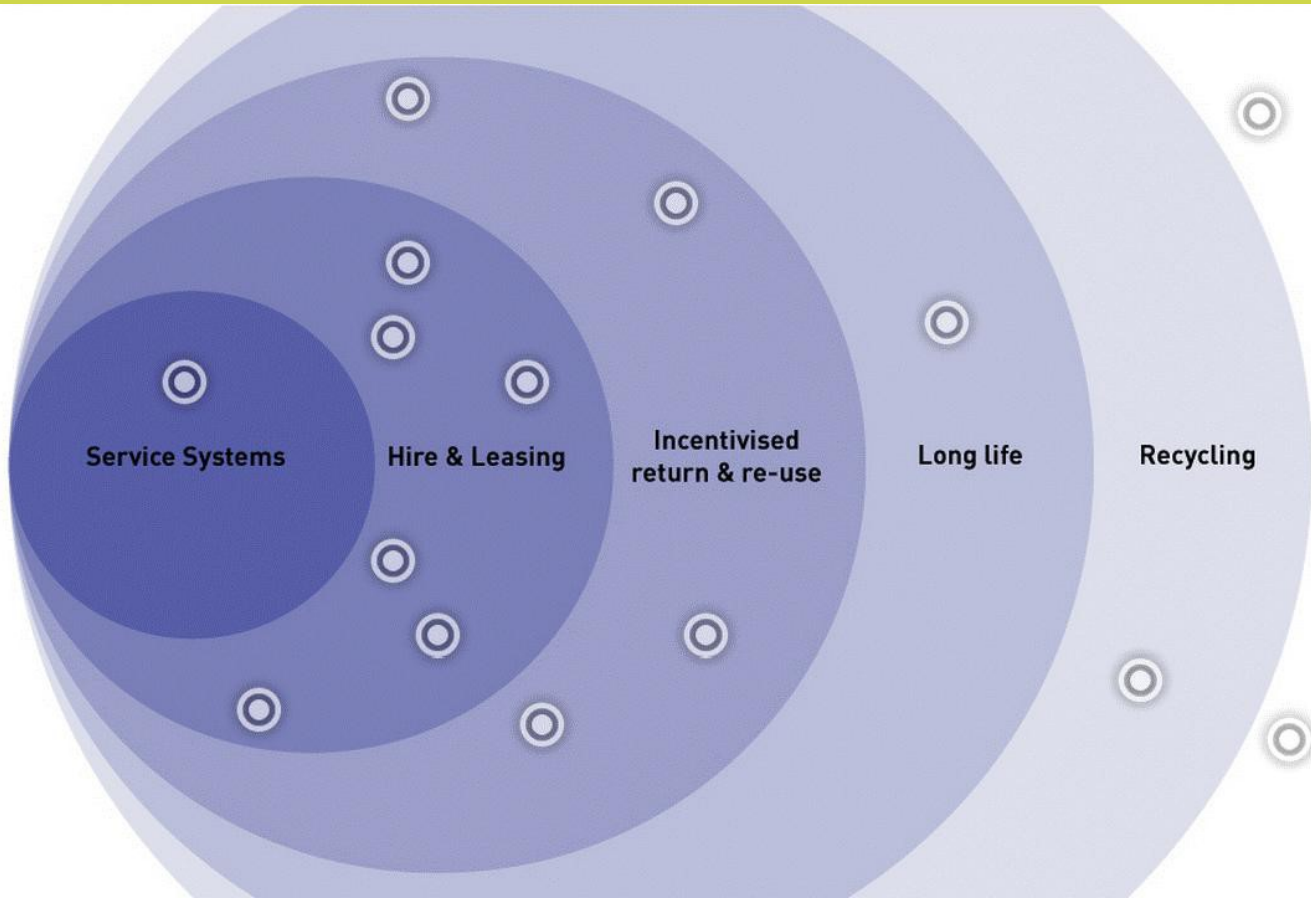
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- Risk is you get it wrong
- Easy to evaluate
- Little opportunity for innovation

Performance:

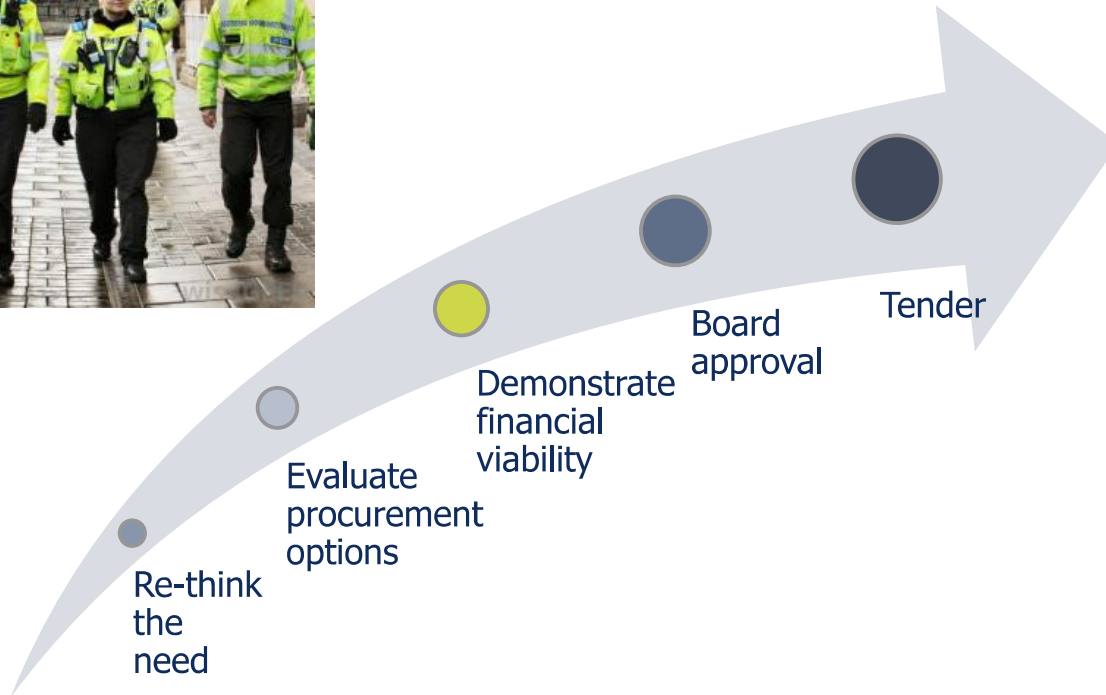
- Define performance parameters
 - e.g. office heating/cooling
- Great scope for variation
- Maximises innovation
- More difficult to evaluate
- Think carefully about bid evaluation

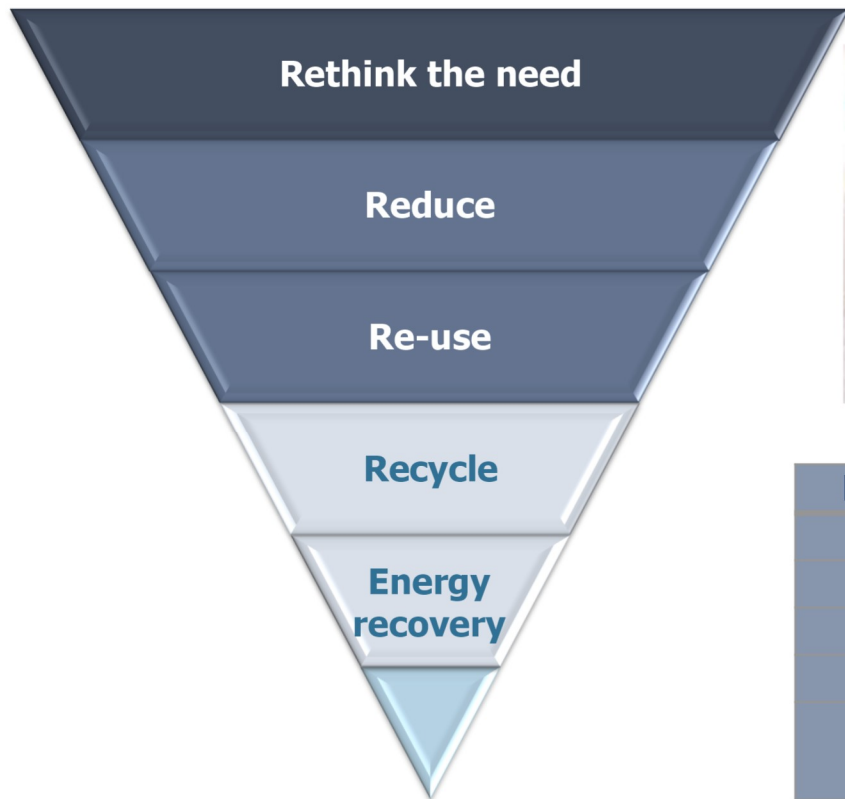
Resource efficient models





e.g. corporate uniforms






Perth & Kinross Council

Year	Expenditure
09/10	£292k
10/11	£131k
11/12	£61k
12/13 (projected)	£33k

- Council restructure in 2010 led to office closures
- As a result, the authority had large quantities of good quality, unwanted furniture
- Re-use scheme delivers £45,000 cost savings in 9 months



Working together for
a world without waste

Resource efficiency in facilities management

Office re-use scheme furnishes council with cost savings

Signing up to the WARPiT re-use scheme saved Sunderland City Council £45,000 in nine months and diverted more than nine tonnes of material from landfill

Introduction

In 2010, Sunderland City Council underwent a restructure that led to the closure of buildings across the city. As offices were vacated, large quantities of office-related resources like furniture, equipment and supplies became redundant. Rather than send these to landfill, the council signed up to the WARPiT re-use scheme, which logs available resources. In just nine months, the new scheme resulted in over £45,000 of cost savings.

WARPiT is now operating council-wide and the offices and schools taking part have diverted 9.4 tonnes from landfill and saved over 24 tonnes of CO₂. Staff are easily able to access the online system through the intranet and are actively encouraged to use it for all their procurement needs.

Background

Sunderland City Council operates a wide portfolio, managing in the region of 325 properties and employing 12,376 staff. The purchase of furniture and paper is organised through a centralised procurement division, but each department essentially manages its own affairs according to its needs.

Through WARPiT, whenever a member of staff needs to buy an item of furniture or office materials such as ink cartridges or files, they can go online to find out whether the item is available from a different department and then arrange collection from a central storage facility.

Dianne Pattison, Policy Officer, Economy and Place, described how it came about: "In 2010, the restructure went council-wide. As

Key facts


- Re-use of furniture and office resources resulted in cost savings of over £45,000 in one year
- 9.4 tonnes of materials have been diverted from landfill
- The online system manages all aspects of duty of care and legal liability

a result, a number of sections were moved around or disbanded. A number of buildings became vacant and when I conducted site visits I found furniture that was due to be disposed of, including tables, chairs and all kinds of other items.

Pattison worked with WARPiT developer Daniel O'Connor to adapt the existing system for the council's needs. In May 2011, the first pilot began and by June the same year, the scheme was live across all council departments.

Diversity

Pattison said: "The exchange of items between departments is now common place;



Sunderland City Council reuse unwanted furniture and office items, helps for other departments to use

REBMs: local SME case study



Use of discarded fruit and vegetables



Objectives

Highlight the volume of food wasted in UK

Create employment for people with limited opportunities



Implementation

Buy up left over fruit and vegetables from market traders

Employ vulnerable women/adults to help create the preserves



Outcome

Small stall at Borough Market in London

Looking to expand to sell in high-end supermarkets

Named as one of the 'Top 50 Radical Businesses' by The Guardian

Employment opportunities



- REBus
- Innovation in Waste Prevention Loan Fund
- Technical Procurement Support
 - Supporting 6 individual procurements
- Resources
 - Tools
 - Procurement wording
 - Case studies

Circular Economy - <http://www.wrap.org.uk/content/how-wrap-supports-circular-economy>

Resource Efficient Procurement - <http://www.wrap.org.uk/content/sustainable-procurement>

Resource Efficient Procurement case studies - <http://www.wrap.org.uk/fmcasestudies>

REBus - <http://www.wrap.org.uk/content/rebus>

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