

Scottish Procurement and Property Directorate

Overview - Public Procurement Priorities 2021-22 Public Sector Organisations Progress Report April - October 2021

The Scottish Government has published a report on the progress of public sector organisations against the **Public Procurement Priorities 2021-22**.

The priorities – covering leadership, economic recovery, supply chain resilience, sustainability, climate, people and systems – are interwoven with the commitments set out by government in its national framework, reflect procurement's four 'good for' outcomes. They have been updated to remain current in 2022-23 and will be published on the Scottish Government's Website.

The report draws together and analyses self-assessment of progress by organisations that responded, and will inform Public Procurement Group (PPG) discussions on next steps, including a review of areas where issues or opportunities are identified and will influence sectoral engagement with organisations. Full year analysis will be undertaken and a report produced in due course.

The report provides a detailed summary of progress by priority and sector, from contributions of 40 Heads of Procurement to a request issued and responded to between September and November 2021. *Collectively, public sector organisations reported positive progress against the Public Procurement Priorities*, with 57% reporting either *good progress* (54%) or having *fully delivered* (3%) against the priorities.



Progress per Priority:

Leadership & Visibility (77.5% reporting *good progress*) – evidence of strong leadership during the pandemic, strategic development, and a wide range of engagement undertaken to raise procurement's profile and increase its voice.



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Sustainable Economic Recovery (63% *good progress*) – a wide range of activity was undertaken to mainstream sustainable procurement and embed tools, principles and practice, and adapt existing (Brexit) strategies to maintain business continuity.

Achieving Professional Excellence (63% *good progress*) – organisations expressed a commitment to achieving high levels of professional excellence, building resources and strengthening capacity through graduate recruitments and ongoing training.

Using Systems to Drive Sustainable Outcomes (55% *good progress*) – the priority most *fully delivered* (7%) against, investment in a wide range of technology to exploit and drive operational and sustainability outcomes.

Maximising Impact of the Sustainable Procurement Duty (53% *good progress*) – widespread progress across most sectors, organisations conveying significant awareness of and engagement with tools, and undertaking activities to maximise impact of the duty.

Supply Chain Resilience (50% *good progress*) – the pandemic created varying levels of difficulty for buyers, with collaboration and flexibility key to ensuring resilience in the supply chain and continuity of supply to support frontline services.

Climate Emergency (20% *good progress* - though 75% reporting *partial progress*) - progress in its infancy, although evidence of a wide range of strategic and operational activity was underway to embed climate considerations in to procurement activity.