



Nescot Procurement Strategy

Aligned with Nescot's Strategic Plan 2025–2028





Introduction and Context

This Procurement Strategy sets out Nescot's vision and approach for procurement over the next five years. It is designed to support our ambitions in the Strategic Plan 2025–2028, enabling excellence in teaching, learning, and operational effectiveness, while maximising value, sustainability, and social impact across our supply chains.

Procurement is a key enabler for Nescot, directly influencing our financial sustainability, environmental footprint, and ability to deliver outstanding student experiences. Our approach balances commercial needs with regulatory requirements and government policy expectations, ensuring outcomes are aligned with Nescot's strategic aims and values.

Key Context:

Procurement accounts for a significant proportion of Nescot's expenditure and environmental impact.

We face challenges including financial pressures, the need for operational efficiencies, and our commitment to sustainability and social responsibility. Our procurement activities must help address climate, biodiversity, and resource crises, in line with our net zero and nature-positive ambitions.



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Vision and Purpose

Vision:

To be an effective and efficient procurement function, enabling Nescot's academic mission by delivering robust commercial and sustainable outcomes, improving operational efficiency, and allowing staff and students to flourish.

Purpose:

To support Nescot in achieving its strategic ambitions through professional, ethical, and innovative sourcing solutions that foster excellence in education, prioritise our people, and drive positive change in our communities.

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Strategic Themes

Our procurement activities will focus on three core themes, aligned with Nescot's strategic objectives:

- **Enabling Teaching, Learning, and Operations**

Support academic and operational excellence by aligning procurement with the evolving needs of staff and students.

Foster partnerships and collaborations to enhance Nescot's activities.

- **Minimising Environmental Impact**

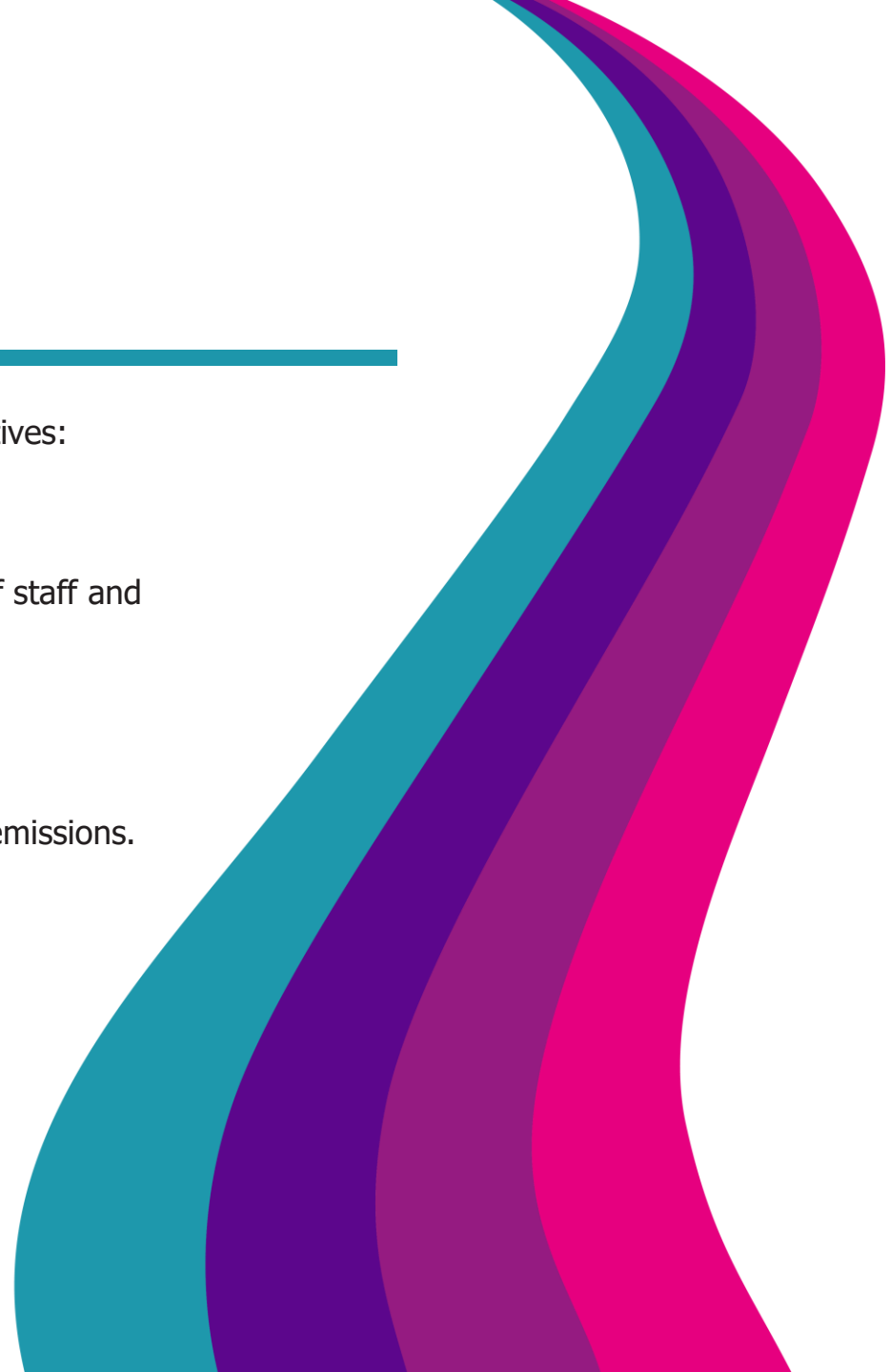
Champion sustainable procurement practices, targeting year-on-year reductions in supply chain emissions.

Integrate circular economy principles, reduce waste, and promote reuse and recycling.

- **Delivering Positive Change for Our Communities**

Leverage procurement to generate social and economic benefits, particularly for local and small businesses.

Ensure responsible supply chains, supporting fair working conditions and ethical practices.



Priorities and Objectives

Our priorities reflect both Nescot's strategic plan and best practice in procurement:

Supplier Emissions:

Embed sustainable practices with suppliers, supporting net zero goals.

Social Impact:

Deliver social value through contracts, supporting local communities and economic development.

Innovation and Value:

Maximise opportunities for partnership and collaboration, driving research and operational benefits.

Circular Economy:

Integrate principles of reuse and recycling across procurement activities.

Responsible Supply Chains:

Focus on wellbeing and fair treatment of supply chain workers.

Economic Growth:

Support participation of small and local businesses in Nescot contracts.

Savings and Efficiencies:

Drive financial savings and operational efficiencies through effective collaboration.

Wider Environmental Impact:

Enhance understanding and mitigation of supply chain impacts on biodiversity, water, and pollution.

Contract Performance:

Optimise supplier performance and manage supply-related risks.

Enablers



Success depends on several key enablers:

- Engagement and Collaboration:

Strong relationships with staff, students, suppliers, and partners to ensure shared objectives and continuous improvement.

- Communication:

Clear, transparent communication of procurement objectives, policies, and processes.

- Capability:

Investment in staff development, leadership, and skills to deliver procurement excellence.

- Systems and Processes:

Efficient, integrated procurement systems to streamline workflows and enhance user experience.

- Data:

Use of data and analytics to inform decision-making, identify opportunities, and monitor performance.

Values and Principles

Nescot's procurement is guided by the following values and principles:

Excellence:

Commitment to the highest standards in service and delivery.

Ambition:

Setting bold goals and striving for continuous improvement.

Customer Focus:

Delivering exceptional service by understanding and meeting stakeholder needs.

Transparency and Integrity:

Maintaining openness, ethical conduct, and fairness in all activities.

Diversity and Inclusion:

Promoting equal access and participation across our supply chains.

Stewardship and Compliance:

Upholding legal, regulatory, and institutional standards.

Proportionality:

Ensuring procurement approaches are appropriate to the scale and risk of each activity.