

NWG RESPONSIBLE PROCUREMENT SUPPLIER CHARTER

Responsible Procurement plays a vital role in ensuring NWG can achieve its vision. We are committed to ethically procuring goods, works and services in a way that generates maximum value not only to our organisation but also to the society and economy, while enhancing the environment and complying with all the relevant laws.



We expect our suppliers to comply with all applicable local laws and regulations and respect internationally recognised human and labour rights. This responsible procurement supplier charter sets out some basic principles which we expect all of our supply chain to comply with when doing business with NWG.



CUSTOMER

NWG aim to deliver industry leading customer service. Our customers are at the heart of our company and we have a clear focus on getting things 'right first time every time'. NWG suppliers must have a clear focus on customer service and always 'Think Customer' to ensure we deliver outstanding customer service every time.



COMMUNITIES

NWG recognises the important of communities and we want to build strong relationships in the communities which we serve. NWG are committed to working with our supply chain to make a positive contribution to the communities which are affected by our activities and NWG suppliers must be willing to work with us to promote initiatives such as apprenticeships, work experience, school visits, charity events and other opportunities which will leave a lasting legacy in the community.



LIVING WAGE

NWG is a Living Wage accredited Employer. We believe that paying a good wage not only helps the people who work for us but makes good business sense too. The Living Wage is an hourly rate set independently and updated annually and is calculated according to the basic cost of living for the UK. NWG's contracts for services and works will include a Living Wage obligation. That will mean that any contracted or subcontracted employee working regularly on NWG sites must also earn at least the living wage.



BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION

One of our five core values is to behave ethically. NWG are committed to not engage in bribery or any form of unethical inducement or payment including facilitation payments and 'kickbacks' and NWG strictly prohibit its employees and suppliers from such activities. Suppliers must keep current, accurate, written accounts of all payments (including gifts, meals, entertainment and anything of value) made on behalf of NWG, or from funds provided by NWG.



MODERN SLAVERY ACT

The Modern Slavery Act was introduced in 2015 in an effort to tackle slavery and trafficking. NWG are committed to complying with the Act and as such will work with suppliers to provide transparency through our supply chains. NWG include provisions in its contracts relating to the Modern Slavery Act and suppliers will need to evidence their compliance with the Act. Furthermore, we expect suppliers to be aware of the ETI base code and where deemed appropriate will be asked to commit to signing up to the code.



HEALTH & SAFETY AND WELLBEING

NWG believes that the promotion of Health, Safety and Wellbeing is a fundamental requirement for us and our suppliers. NWG's suppliers will at all times and under all circumstances maintain a high level of safety including the achievement of all legal standards. NWG expects its Suppliers to work with us to establish and maintain a culture and working environment in which Health & Safety is of paramount concern to all.



ENVIRONMENTAL

NWG is committed to sustainable development which minimises the effect on the environment. Suppliers are encouraged to ensure that in designs, supply or construction for NWG that the activities:

- Focus on whole life cost
- Minimise energy use
- Preserve and enhance bio-diversity
- Minimise waste
- Eliminate pollution
- Conserve water resources.



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

NWG recognise the value that different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives can bring to our business and we oppose all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination or victimisation. All NWG suppliers must ensure that no employee or job applicant receives less favourable facilities or treatment (either directly or indirectly) in recruitment or employment on grounds of age, disability, gender / gender reassignment, marriage / civil partnership, pregnancy / maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation (the protected characteristics as defined by Equality Act 2010).



CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Some of the information we deal with has to be treated confidentially. We will always handle confidential information about NWG's business lawfully and with care, while maintaining confidentiality. Suppliers should ensure that they hold and process confidential information belonging or pertaining to NWG in accordance with all relevant laws and should take action to prevent its improper use or release.



CYBER SECURITY

NWG is a Critical National Infrastructure (CNI) company and relies on secure IT systems to provide essential services to our customers and stakeholders. It's paramount that our supply chain also follow good cyber security controls and follow the key principles of Confidentiality, Integrity and Availability of information and systems. Good practice Cyber Security controls should be applied to Technology, People and Process.



REPORTING

NWG want to work with its employees and suppliers to ensure compliance with this charter. Should any supplier become aware of or have a belief that a NWG employee or anyone acting on behalf of NWG (including suppliers) have engaged in illegal or improper conduct or are not complying with the principles of this charter then they should report the matter to NWG. To report the matter to NWG you can call NWG's independent Whistleblowing line on 0800 915 1571. All reports will be treated confidentially.

