

## RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS STATEMENT

Group Procurement will support Riverside's overall approach to responsible business by ensuring it is consistently implemented and measured throughout all the appropriate commercial arrangements, strategy, processes and procedures.

1. The Group Procurement Policy will ensure that through all policy, strategy and procedures, Riverside complies with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010. We aim to promote equality through all of our activities as employer, partner, influencer and service provider. We will comply with all legal and regulatory requirements which apply to the protected characteristics of race, religion or belief, sex, disability, sexual orientation, age, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership and pregnancy and maternity. We will take all reasonable steps to ensure our partners, suppliers and groups connected to Riverside are actively committed to our equality, diversity and inclusion principles.
2. Group Procurement will build mainstream equality, diversity and inclusion into the procurement process throughout and will ensure that no discrimination exists on the basis of the Act's nine protected characteristics listed in section 6.1. The most effective way to address equality issues in the procurement process is to impose contract conditions on the contractor and work with them in order to ensure they meet the required standards.
3. Group Procurement will ensure measures are in place to comply with the Modern Slavery Act 2015 in relation to transparency in our supply chain, and will establish processes and embed ethical principles on how suppliers and tenders are evaluated and assessed to identify vulnerabilities, driving out unethical practices from our supply chain and taking corrective action where appropriate.
4. Group Procurement will secure and support social value and Responsible Business / sustainable benefits in line with company values to support corporate plan deliverables through our supply chain.
5. Group Procurement will assist with the creation of economic, social and environmental benefits for local communities through our procurement activities in line with the requirements of the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 and Lord Young Reforms incorporated in Part 4, Public Contract Regulations 2015, seeking to maximise opportunities for local employment; and apprenticeships.
6. Group Procurement will encourage our supply chain to provide opportunities of employment, work experience, training, volunteering or apprenticeship programmes or contribute to the Riverside Foundation through the tender process and effectively measure the outcomes.
7. Group Procurement will actively consider environmental and sustainability impact in procurement of goods and services, assessing specifications and tender proposals appropriately for long term sustainability.