



3. GPP POLICY AND APPLICATION

An efficient GPP requires an appropriate plan and strategy. Indeed, a clear cut and written policy provides a useful basis on which to build a coherent, well-co-ordinated, structured GPP approach. A policy gives backing to those driving the process within an organisation (Toolkit EU, 2019).

Figure 2. The benefits of a GPP policy

A clear framework for action and monitoring

All staff fully understand the benefits of sustainable procurement plan is created that crosses departments and product or service categories

Budget holders understand both the risks and opportunities of sustainable procurement of sustainable procurement it or service categories

Stronger management of supply chains, through direct engagement, development of market intelligence, and sourcing strategies

Font: EU ToolKit, 2019

Figure 3. Sustainable and innovation procurement policy examples

Oslo – Responsible public procurement is one of the six sub-goals of the Procurement Strategy.

Barcelona – GPP initiatives are detailed in the +Sustainable City Council Programme, which is part of Barcelona's Agenda 21.

Copenhagen – The CPH 2025 Climate Plan recognises procurement as having a role to play in the transformation to a carbon neutral city.

Budapest – The Budapest Environmental Program (2017-2021) includes the target for 100% GPP processes, as well as other sector specific targets.

Source: EU ToolKit. 2019





This table offers a selection of cases with replicable GPP examples focused on waste prevention or waste management. It can be noticed how public bodies take advantage from GPP guidelines to influence the shift to more sustainable production and provision of services.

Table 1. Examples of Green Public Procurement

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PUBLIC BODY	SUBJECT-MATTER	TYPE OF CONTRACT	PREPARATION	AWARD CRITERIA & TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS & CONDITIONS FOR PERFORMANCE	RESULT ACHIEVED	
City of Luxembourg.	Sustainable cleaning products. The provision of cleaning products and services.	Open procedure.	The technical specification was developed at an early stage in conjunction with the Luxembourg Environmental Protection Office. Analysis found that only 15% of previously used products were free	The technical specifications for the new tender included a list of substances banned from products, and award criteria to reduce the use of others.	The market adjusted quickly and four companies submitted bids. Using this approach, the city was able to create a healthier environment for both its employees and citizens.	
Bulgarian Ministry of the Environment and Water.	Recycled material supply. 100% recycled fibre when ordering paper for use in its office.	1st. Open procedure. 2n. Framework agreement.	of harmful substances. A pre-procurement market analysis revealed that a switch to more environmentally-friendly paper could be done without increasing the price.	100% recycled fibre when ordering paper for use in its office.	Following the Ministry's successful procurement, the Bulgarian Central Purchasing Body also concluded a framework agreement for the supply of 100% recycled paper to a number of public authorities.	
City of Miskolc. Hungary.	Less toxic chemicals supply. Calcium magnesium acetate to defrost roads supply contract.		The city sought to purchase greener alternatives for a number of its requirements. For example, for winter defrosting of roads the city switched from sodium chloride to calcium magnesium acetate (CMA), a less corrosive substance which does not increase sodium levels in drinking water.	Defrosting of road service should be made with calcium magnesium acetate.		
City of Kolding, Denmark.	Ecolabel. Label criteria incorporated into procurements whenever possible.			The applicable criteria from the eco-labels are inserted directly into technical specifications and/or award criteria. It is stated that a copy of the eco-label certificate is seen as full verification that the criteria are met, but also that alternative documentation will be accepted.	Incorporated with considerable success. Tenders using eco-label criteria include cleaning products, copy paper, uniforms, laundry services (for the detergent used), printing services (for the paper used), tissue paper, and fleet management (for the lubricants used).	





Gipuzkoa Provincial Council. Basque Country. Spain.	Sustainable building maintenance. Maintenance contract for two buildings. Environmental sustainability of the services.	Open procedure.		The selection criteria included a requirement for bidders to designate an engineer or technical-grade architect responsible for coordinating the maintenance services. This person has the appropriate training, knowledge and experience in environmental matters associated with the maintenance, including energy efficiency and waste management.	
City of Ghent. Belgium.	Sustainable paper and office supply. Paper and office supply contract.	Four-year framework contract.		All products in the tender included green criteria and technical specifications. Contract performance clauses included a requirement for a reduction in deliveries by 85% (from daily to once or twice per month).	Extra points were also awarded for greener solutions, which resulted in sustainable packaging options offered in tenders The tender achieved lower CO2 emissions from the decrease in delivery frequency and new packaging options.
Herning Municipality. Denmark.	Uniforms purchase. New uniforms purchase for the technical operations department.		The municipality sought to procure new uniforms for its technical operations department, with the aim of extending their lifespan and more efficient use.	It developed technical specifications and contract performance clauses related to maintenance, repair and recycling.	By leasing uniforms through a service model, and including reuse and recycling contract provisions, it was possible to extend the lifespan of the uniforms, saving an estimated €6,700 and 1,011 tonnes of CO2 emissions over four years.
City of Turin. Italy.	Circular concepts into school catering. Sustainable school catering supply contract.			The city introduces several measures, which included requiring the use of energy efficient appliances and low environmental impact transport, as well as significantly reducing packaging and waste, and favouring reusable and refillable products where packaging is unavoidable. In addition, contractors were required to shift from using plastic to reusable dishes.	The requirement to shift from using plastic to reusable dishes alone resulted in a reduction of 157 tonnes/year of plastic waste.
City of Barcelona. Catalonia. Spain.	Municipal waste collection service. Sustainable measures include, among others, sustainable vehicles.	Open procedure.		When a vehicle has to be replaced, the replacement must be down following a sustainable order of priorities: 1. Electric; 2. Plug-in hybrid electric; 3. Hybrid electric and gas; 4. Gasoline thermal engines and 5. Diesel thermal engines.	





City of Mataró. Catalonia. Spain. Municipal waste collection service.

collection Open procedure.

The award criteria allocate the maximum number of points to the lower environmental impact for each product (machinery, containers, clothing of personnel, etc.).

Sustainable measures include, among others, green supplies, reduction of greenhouse gases and the use of fuel-efficient tyres.

The award criteria also allocate the maximum number of points to the proposals with less greenhouse emissions and to the more fuel-efficient tyres.

Source: Data and descriptions of GPP examples have been obtained from EU Handbook, 2016, EU Good practice and guidance, 2017 and Barcelona and Mataró municipalities procurement documents.