From:	
To:	DECC GPP
Subject:	feedback from Irish Rail
Date:	Thursday 16 November 2023 19:14:22
Attachments:	GPP review response -Irish Rail.docx

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To whom it may concern,

Please see my feedback on the draft plan on behalf of Irish Rail. Could you please confirm receipt of this email. Thanks.

Regards

Deputy Chief Procurement Officer

Iarnród Éireann Irish Rail, cuideachta ghníomhaíochta ainmnithe, faoi theorainn scaireanna, cláraithe in Éirinn ag Stáisiún Uí Chonghaile, Baile Átha Cliath 1, Ur 119571 Ur CBL: IE 4812851 O, Iarnród Éireann Irish Rail, a designated activity company, limited by shares, registered in Ireland at Connolly Station, Dublin 1, No 119571 VAT No IE 4812851 O

In Iarnród Éireann, creideann muid in obair sholúbtha a éascú, agus mar sin, cé go n-oireann sé dom ríomhphost a sheoladh anois, níl mé ag súil le freagra ná gníomh lasmuigh de d'uaireanta oibre At Iarnród Éireann we believe in facilitating flexible working, so while it suits me to email now, I do not expect a response or action outside of your own working hours

Green Public Procurement Strategy and Action Plan Public Consultation Feedback

Drafted by Deputy Chief Procurement Officer, Irish Rail

Contact email

Date: 16th Nov 2013

This document aims to provide constructive feedback on the GPP strategy document on three areas: Minimum weighting on criteria, Training & Development and Reporting.

Minimum weighting on criteria

I believe that government should mandate a minimum weighting on sustainable award criteria. For instance, in the UK, there is a 10% minimum weighting on social value, which has significantly influenced supplier behaviour by encouraging the promotion of the local economy and creating opportunities for local labour. This approach has transformed public sector procurement in the UK, making social value a top priority from the outset. Mandating such criteria at the government level can streamline the process, eliminating debates about the necessity and specifics of sustainability criteria, and facilitate smoother implementation.

Training and development

All public sectors should set out annual funding for training staff in GPP. Refresher training should be provided to all staff involved in public tenders.

larnród Éireann has become founding partner of Sustainability School Ireland. They provide many training materials on various ESG topics, workshops/webinars etc. OGP as a central government procurement body should be involved and working with them to streamline all training materials for the public sector.

Reporting

There is no reference to Scope 1/2/3 carbon emission reporting in this plan.

From October 1st 2013 all publicly quoted UK incorporated companies must measure and report greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Similarly, this should be mandated in Ireland so that it can speed up the reporting process.

Additionally, I strongly recommend that government should provide a single streamlined system for all public contracting authorities to collect and monitor CO2 data from suppliers.

Finally, It is recommended that a forum to be set up by key stakeholders to facilitate regular meetings and share knowledge and lessons learned.

Overall, I welcome the new policy and do believe it will have positive impact on society. However, I suggest incorporating simple, practical, and measurable rules into the process to ensure ease of implementation. Streamlined platform and process should be adopted by the government to facilitate implementation of the strategy.