Procurement Strategy

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Procurement Strategy

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Procurement Strategy

1. Introduction

Procurement has undergone the biggest change in decades with the introduction of the Procurement Act 2023, and this has impacted on how procurement can and does deliver services that are strategically relevant to delivering on Rykneld Homes Ltd (RHL) vision and priorities.

This Strategy will focus on the delivery of the requirements of the new Act but will also allow RHL to be more proactive in procurement delivery. All procurement activity will work to ensure that it will benefit and support the local and regional economy, including training, employment opportunities. There will be a focus on delivering benefits for the communities that we work and live in.

This Strategy sets out RHLs approach to compliant procurement by incorporating the recently revised procurement legislation, national drivers and all housing related requirements.

The objective is to undertake the procurement of goods, works and services in an economically, environmentally and socially responsible manner achieving value for money on behalf of RHL and its key stakeholders, making purchasing and procurement decisions that promote the long-term interests of the communities we work in. Public procurement is governed by a legal and regulatory framework that if not followed could expose RHL to costly legal challenges and risk of considerable reputational damage.

In supporting these values staff must ensure that whilst supporting on the delivery of the values, that they do not compromise the integrity of the procurement processes and that constant reference to the relevant legislative framework obligations is maintained at all times.

The values that drive RHL are central to the development of a sustainable and robust Procurement Strategy.

a. **Transparency** – Be honest, open, and accountable.

b. **Teamwork** – Work as a team and embrace collaboration.

c. **Equality** – Treat everyone fairly and with respect.

d. **Responsiveness** – Provide timely service, advice and support.

e. **Inclusivity** – Support customer engagement and influence.

f. **Innovation** – Embrace change and innovation.

The approach outlined in this Strategy demonstrates how the Procurement Policy and Procedures support the delivery of the values. Procurement is responsible for delivering:

a. Compliantly procured innovative solutions.

b. In line with the Social Value Act 2012 and PPN002 Social Value Model, we will ensure that all procurement activity delivers back to the community. We will ensure that by designing holistic solutions that we will give back to our communities in a variety of ways.

c. Ensuring that a collaborative and dynamic approach to procurement in all projects.

d. We will look to use data and technology more effectively. This will allow us to better understand stakeholder behaviour, manage demands on time and resource more effectively and work to being more proactive in delivery of our services.

e. Deliver value for money across all procurement activity.

f. We have legal responsibilities relating to equality and diversity, that we ensure are in place as part of our procurement activity, but we see these as the minimum requirement. We also continue to focus on the delivery on the wider benefits of improving everyone's quality of life and our social responsibility which can be influenced by our objectives and action plans.

Rykneld Homes is a transparent and accountable organisation and will take steps to ensure that customers and all stakeholders understand and have the opportunity to influence how RHL uses its financial resources and how we procure compliantly.

This Strategy should be read in conjunction with RHL's Financial Regulations and Contract Procedure Rules. The Strategy covers the period from 2026 – 2029 and will be reviewed and updated in 2029.

2. Strategic Procurement Approach

Procurements reach is wide, ranging from major capital projects to one-off low value requirements. Procurement will demonstrate that they are able to deliver a robust and sustainable service that aligns to all of the key values of RHL and fully complies with legislative requirements. The Strategy will be proactive and sustainable paving the way for long-term sustainable success in procurement activities.

3. Contracts Register/Procurement Pipeline

Procurement will develop the Contracts Register that will detail all current contracted spend and support in the development of a sustainable and procurement pipeline. The development of a robust and transparent Contracts Register will ensure that our customers, stakeholders, potential suppliers and internal stakeholders are aware of the compliantly procured opportunities.

The Contracts Register ensures a proactive procurement pipeline to be in place which will allow for a sustainable procurement timetable that aligns to the budget planning process, contractual end dates and any regulatory requirements.

4. Sourcing Strategy/Procurement Activity

A key function of the Procurement team is understanding what type of procurement activity should be undertaken for the specific requirements. There are a wide range of options available to use, all dependent on a variety of dependencies such as but not limited to – value of project, funding streams, timebound requirements and capacity within the market. By following a well-developed sourcing Strategy, RHL will be able deliver on its values and achieve value for money with compliantly procured solutions.

A key part of delivering this part of the Strategy will be to make better use of available and emerging technologies that will allow for streamlining and improvement of processes across the procurement spectrum – from the initial enquiry to robust and relevant contract management.

5. Compliant Procurement Processes

The Contract Procedure Rules and Financial Regulations are key to how procurement and finance co-ordinate to ensure contracts are correctly let and managed following procurement.

The Procurement Act 2023 has brought a number of changes to the procurement of goods, works and services. The combination of robust procurement and close management of contracts will ensure RHL meets the requirements of the new Act.

A key part of a compliant process is the e-tendering mechanism. All procurement will be undertaken via a tender portal. This offers transparency and compliance and a full audit trail of activities.

To be able to support the compliant procurement processes, training and support will be provided to all relevant staff who will be involved in a procurement process on what constitutes a good, sound, compliant process.

6. Contract Management

Under the new procurement regulations, contract management has been given a key focus. Good practice in this area will support on the delivery of value for money, contract compliance in terms of delivery of KPIs and delivery for the customers who use our services.

The adoption of robust contract management will increase the quality effectiveness and ensure a consistent and effective approach is taken to all contracts and, therefore, ensuring that what we have procured is delivered to the highest standards.

7. External Stakeholders

Rykneld Homes values the relationship with its customers. This Procurement Strategy will look to build on this relationship. All procurement activity will have the customer at the centre irrespective of the value of the procurement.

Procurement will continue to challenge the supply base in all activities, whether it is via tendering, supplier negotiations or through sound and robust contract management.

Suppliers are a key stakeholder who deliver the services to RHL. They will be challenged to continually deliver value for money, deliver projects and contracts on time and to support

the community that they work within. However, there is a responsibility to ensure that the supply chain is sustainable and has access to the procurement opportunities that arise. Procurement legislation requires that visibility for tender opportunities is mandated. This allows for transparency and equal opportunities on all procurement activities.

8. Social Value

The Public Services Social Value Act 2012, when introduced, required any public Contracting Authority to give due regard to social value in procurement activities. However, the Procurement Act 2023 has changed "due regard" to "must" consider social value in procurement decisions. The Procurement Act 2023 has given more focus to the delivery of social value commitments in procurement activities. Whilst the requirement to deliver social value commitments are not mandated, RHL will not take this approach. Rykneld Homes will ensure that all procurement activities (including sourcing strategies, tender activities and contract management), will look to deliver and enhance the social value requirements of the Business.

9. Governance

The Procurement Strategy will be reviewed on an annual basis, with reporting on a quarterly basis to the Senior Leadership Team. If there are any significant updates within the relevant legislation, National Procurement Policy Statement (NPPS), or within the financial regulation, they will be updated in line with the requirements.

10. Contact

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Author(s):	**Procurement Manager**
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Version	Author	Date	Changes
V1.0	Head of Finance	22.03.2018	Policy approved by Board
V0.1	Procurement Manager	06.11.25	1st Draft of Policy
V0.2	Procurement Manager	29.05.26	2nd Draft of Policy
V0.3	Head of Business Development	29.05.26	3rd Draft of Policy – submitted to Finance and Audit Sub-Board 24.06.26
V0.3	Procurement Manager	24.06.26	Approved at Finance and Audit Sub-Board
V0.3	Procurement Manager	02.07.26	The Board approved the Draft Procurement Strategy 2026/29 taking on board comments received from the Finance and Audit Sub-Board.
V2.0	Procurement Manager	17.07.26	Draft removed, version number updated, info page updated. Final version uploaded to staff website only.

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