



A Study of Green Public Procurement from a Local Authority Perspective
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Abstract

This dissertation outlined the development of green procurement policy at an international, European and national level. The current culture of green procurement was examined within Irish Public Bodies, particularly Local Authorities. Procurement plans were examined for green procurement policies and tender documents were examined for green criteria. Case studies were presented to give examples of green procurement in practice, to demonstrate the procurement processes used and to summarise the lessons learned.

The culture of green procurement across Irish Public Bodies was found to be extremely diverse and was often found to be driven by individuals within these bodies as much as by corporate policy. Many obstacles to Green Public Procurement were found to exist, including a need for national legislative and policy drivers. The level of knowledge and training in this area is limited and this is reflected in the general absence of green criteria in public tenders.

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Chapter 1: Introduction

The total Irish Government purchasing budget is over €10 billion per annum (DoEHLG 2007). This level of spending power can have a significant impact on Irish market forces. Should Irish Public Bodies embrace the procurement of “Environmentally Friendly” or “Green” products and services, the potential for the development of these markets would be significantly enhanced.

In this study, an extensive literature review was undertaken to show the development of Green Public Procurement (GPP) at International, European and National level. The national public procurement process is outlined as is required of Irish Public Bodies.

This dissertation comes less than twelve months after the introduction of a European Commission Communication “Public procurement for a better environment” (EU Commission, 2008). This communication outlines priority sectors, targets, potential mandatory measures and indicators for green procurement.

Questionnaires based on a previous “Take-5 Study” on “Green Public Procurement in Europe (Bouwer et al, 2005/6)”, were issued by the author to Local Authorities, a number of Other Public Bodies and a number of Public Body Suppliers. These questionnaires aimed to get an insight into the existing culture of green procurement in Irish Public Bodies, specifically Local Authorities. The questionnaires also gathered information on the green criteria currently being used in tender documents and aimed to determine the types of criteria used, how extensively they are used and in which commercial sectors.

Public Body tender documents were analysed for green criteria to assess the actual use of such criteria in practice and to enable a comparison with a the “Take-5” study and to compare practices in Ireland with that of the top seven Member States named in the study as the “Green-7”.

Local Authority Corporate Procurement Plans were then examined for the existence of policies on green procurement in order to determine the level of corporate commitment to the procurement of green goods and services.

Finally a number of case studies are provided as examples of green procurement in practice in the United States, United Kingdom, Spain, Sweden and Ireland.

The human races' materialistic requirement for mass production, mass consumption, and mass waste has resulted in the current concerns of global warming, resource depletion and general environmental degradation. In a context of climate change, we need to adopt more sustainable lifestyles both to reduce the use of natural resources and CO₂ emissions. Green procurement can be a key tool to encourage a more environmentally sustainable behaviour.

Chapter 2: Literature Review

2.1 Introduction

This literature review is an account of published reports and research on Green Public Procurement (GPP).

Review Objectives:


The objectives of this literature review were to:

- Review current international, national and local legislation, policies, best practice and previous studies/reports on GPP.
- Review the main drivers and merits of GPP and the environmental guidelines available for its development.
- Review the obstacles which exist to implementing a Green Procurement Policy and strategy in the Public Sector.

2.1.1 Defining “Green” Public Procurement (GPP)

In 2005, a consortium of five European organisations completed a study on “Green Public Procurement in Europe” (Bouwer et al, 2005). The resulting report became known as the “Take-5 Report” (Bouwer et al, 2006). As part of their service contract commissioned by the EU Directorate-General for the Environment, the group analysed twenty-one existing definitions of GPP and other synonymous titles. The following definition was agreed upon for the purpose of the service contract:

“Green Public Procurement is the approach by which Public Authorities integrate environmental criteria into all stages of their procurement process, thus encouraging the spread of environmental technologies and the development of environmentally sound products, by seeking and choosing outcomes and solutions that have the least possible impact on the environment throughout their whole life-cycle”.



Internationally and even nationally, many synonymous phrases are used for GPP, such as Sustainable Public Procurement; Environmental Public Procurement; Green/Sustainable Public Purchasing; Eco-Efficient Public Purchasing, Sustainable Consumption and Production, and Environmentally Preferable Procurement. Generally where “Sustainable” is used, it means that contracting authorities take into account all three pillars of sustainable development, Economy, Society and Environment. “Green/Environmental” takes Environmental considerations into account only. Sustainable Consumption and Production is a key instrument in sustainable development and encompasses the development of sustainable products, processes and includes sustainable procurement, both public and private. The recent European Commission’s Communication, “Public procurement for a better environment” (EU Commission, 2008) uses “Green Public Procurement” as the title of choice as the EU “Europa” website explains, “relevance and practical application of the environmental aspects of public procurement can be demonstrated rather easily..... specification of social and ethical aspects of sustainable procurement is much more difficult to demonstrate.”

2.1.2 Requirements for and Benefits of GPP

There are several interconnected, global environmental problems which have been highlighted in the UNEP (2007) Environment Outlook 4 report and which pose a significant risk to sustainable development of the human race. These include climate change, water scarcity, land degradation, deforestation, loss of biodiversity and pollution. One of the main messages of the report states that sustainable development is being achieved through meetings, agreements and changes in environmental governance, but real change has been slow.

Since the Brundtland report in 1987, environmental resources have been put under significant pressure. This is mainly as a result of an increase in population, radical change in consumption patterns and an increase in energy use. The report recommended that policy-makers should design policies that tackle both pressures

and the drivers behind them. “Economic instruments such as market creation and charge systems may be used to help spur environmentally sustainable behaviour.”

From an Irish perspective, the Environmental Protection Agency (2008) in their most recent State of the Environment Report have found that waste generation and resource use are currently at an unsustainable level, and have increased with the recent economic growth. To reverse this trend, Ireland needs its policies to move beyond controlling emissions and waste, and to address the fundamental issues of sustainable production and consumption. Public Authorities through Green Procurement policies can have a significant impact by creating a demand on markets for environmentally friendly products and services. By creating such a demand, it will also provide incentives for companies to develop environmental technologies, products and services. European public authorities spend the equivalent of 16% of the EU Gross Domestic Product per annum (EU Commission 2008) on the purchase of goods and services, and at national level the total Irish Government purchasing budget is over €10 billion per annum (DoEHLG 2007). This gives public procurers significant purchasing power to ‘move the market’ towards the competitive provision of sustainable products and services.

The EU Commission guidance document “Buying Green” (2004) presented some examples from the EU Relief research project. If the 2.8 million desktop computers purchased each year by public authorities in the European Union were energy efficient models, this would reduce European emissions of greenhouse gases by over 830,000 tonnes (CO₂-equivalents). Even more significantly, the EU could achieve an 18% reduction in its target for CO₂ emissions (60m tonnes) if all European public authorities were to switch to 100% green electricity. If all European public authorities used efficient toilets and taps in their buildings, 200 million tonnes of water would be saved per annum. Financial savings can be achieved by the Public Body itself when procuring energy, water and services. Resource efficient products and buildings can significantly reduce utility bills, operating costs, waste management fees, and reduce spending on pollution prevention (ICLEI, 2007).

The Marrakesh Process (UNEP) has also identified some key benefits of GPP:

- Stimulating markets for sustainable products and services
- Influencing the behaviour of other socio-economic actors by setting an example.
- Support to eco-efficiency and technical innovation by encouraging solutions that create the maximum value with the minimum resource use, pollution and waste.
- Improvement of environmental performance, contributions to meeting national and international environmental policy objectives, and diffusion of life-cycle approaches.
- Advancement of economic performance by identifying efficiency opportunities and improving quality of public spending.
- Reducing negative impacts of meeting current government and societal needs on the lives of future generations.

2.2 Developments in GPP

2.2.1 International Policy and legislation development

International covenants, in the form of environmental agreements, protocols or conventions have to date been advocates of Green Procurement. Examples include The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES, no year), The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA (2008)). In the context of international policy, the primary driver behind GPP was its mention in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg (UN 2002). Paragraph 19(c) requires governments to “promote public procurement policies that encourage development and diffusion of environmentally sound goods and services.” Paragraph 15 encourages the development of a 10-year framework of programmes to develop sustainable consumption and production. Following the

Johannesburg World Summit, the UNEP set up the Task Force; its primary objective is to support the elaboration of the 10-Year Framework of Programs (UNEP, Marrakech Task Force (2008)).

In 2002, the OECD adopted a recommendation “to improve the environmental performance of public procurement” (OECD, 2002) and in a recent report by the International Institute for Sustainable Development, four other international sustainable procurement programmes were identified (Perera et al 2007). These were; The international Green Purchasing Network (IGPN), Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), the North American Green Purchasing Initiative (NAGPI) and the European Union Green Purchasing Programme.

Many national Green Procurement Policies and legislation have existed since the early to mid 1990s (Perera et al 2007). At least 34 programmes have been identified (Perera et al 2007), one in Norway dating back to 1993 (GRIP, no year). Some of those identified have progressed to using legislation to implement environmental procurement policies (US, Denmark, Japan, Germany, China, South Korea, South Africa, and Morocco)(Perera et al, 2007).

2.2.2 GPP Legislation and Policy Development in the European Union.

Sustainable development was first introduced in a legal context in the EU by its inclusion in the 1997 Amsterdam Treaty, stating that “environmental protection requirements must be integrated into the definition and implementation of other Community policies.” At this time the existing public procurement Directives (4 no.) did not specifically provide for the use of environmental criteria, so in 2001, the European Commission issued an interpretative communication “on the Community law applicable to public procurement and the possibilities for integrating environmental considerations into public procurement” (EU Commission 2001).

In 2004, a new European legal framework for public procurement was introduced, consisting of two directives (EU Directive 2004/17/EC and EU Directive 2004/18/EC)

replacing the four previous directives. These new directives specifically mention environmental criteria in technical specifications for public procurement and tendering processes. GPP was also introduced under the Sixth Environment Action Programme and a follow-up Commission Communication on Integrated Product Policy “Building on Environmental Life-Cycle Thinking” (EU Commission, 2003). This communication recommended that Member States adopt “national action plans” for GPP by the end of 2006.

A renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy (June 2006), set a policy objective for 2010, to bring “the average level of EU green public procurement up to the standard achieved by the best performing Member States in 2006”. Bouwer et al, (2005) found that the best performing Member States at this time were Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden and the UK and became known as the “Green-7”. These countries were implementing more elements of GPP than the other 18 Member States. In 2008, the EU Commission issued two communications:

- 1) “Public procurement for a better environment” which promotes GPP as a policy instrument for member states
- 2) “On the Sustainable Consumption and Production and Sustainable Industrial Policy Action Plan” which promotes a framework to “improve the energy and environmental performance of products” and “establish a harmonised base for public procurement.”(EU Commission 2008 and 2008a)

In the last few years, the European Commission has provided extensive funding for research and development into GPP in the EU. The most notable projects were one coordinated by the “Take-5” consortium (Bouwer et al, 2005) which resulted in the “Green Public Procurement in Europe” report (Bouwer et al, 2006) and those studies which were coordinated by Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) including the RELIEF project and a three part report on the “Costs and Benefits of Green Public Procurement (ICLEI, 2007a). ICLEI have set up their own European Secretariat and have undertaken many studies and work programmes to develop GPP in the EU. These include LEAP which ran from 2003-2006 and has developed tools for Local

Authorities to deal with green procurement as part of an EMS and the Procura+ Campaign which is “an initiative designed to help support public authorities across Europe in implementing Sustainable Procurement, and help promote their achievements”(ICLEI (2007)).

2.2.3 Monitoring and reporting on GPP

There is currently no reporting requirement for Member States in relation to green procurement. The European Commission communication “Public procurement for a better environment” sets out indicators and a timetable for Member States to implement GPP. The proposed indicators are in two forms:

- Quantitative; the calculation of green contracts and a comparison with the overall value of public contracts, and
- “Impact-oriented” for which the Commission is currently developing a methodology but will probably be a calculation based on the analysis of tender documents and their associated procedures.

The Commission proposes to monitor the level of Green Procurement in 2010 and the results of the best performing States will form the baseline for future targets (EU Commission, 2008).

2.2.4 GPP Legislation and Policy Development in Ireland

Until the introduction of the European Communities (Award of Public Authorities' Contracts) Regulations 2006, no national legislation existed which specifically related to GPP. This regulation transposed Directive 2004/18/EC into Irish law. This regulation also gives the power to Local Authorities to take environmental considerations into account when procuring products and services. Prior to this regulation, GPP was addressed through guidance from the Government's Contracts Committee (DoF 2004). This guidance was written to assist Public Bodies in their integration of the EU Commission's 2001 Interpretive Communication by including environmental considerations in the four main stages of procurement; namely,

defining the subject matter, selection of candidates, award of contract and execution of contract.

GPP has been indirectly mentioned in national policy for a number of years through our policies on Sustainable Development, Waste Management and through Local Development Planning (DoEHLG 1998-2007). At the time of writing, no specific national government policy on GPP has been published although the DoEHLG are to prepare a Green Procurement Action Plan (DoEHLG). This plan was mentioned as part of the National Climate Change Strategy 2007-2012 (DoEHLG, 2007) which states that “The action plan will underline how high environmental standards must be an integral element of value for money across the whole range of public purchasing.” The National Public Procurement Policy Framework (DoF, 2005) which sets out the policy objectives of public procurement in Ireland requires that procurement policies consider “whole-of-life and transaction costs associated with acquiring, using, holding, maintaining and disposing of the goods or services”. At a local level each Local Authority must produce an organisational climate change strategy. This strategy will include the promotion of GPP in the Local Authority tendering process (Offaly County Council, 2009).

In 2003, as a result of a survey undertaken by ICLEI on behalf of the European Commission, it was found that only 5% of Irish public administrations included environmental criteria in more than 50% of purchases compared with a 19% EU average. The same survey showed that almost 100% of Irish public administrations did not have a green procurement policy in place. A second survey undertaken by Bouwer et al (2005) under the “Take-5” Consortium asked Member States “Are there environmental criteria taken into account in your organisation when purchasing”. The survey showed that 40% of Irish respondents answered in the affirmative. This same survey analysed tender documents of the Public Bodies in each Member State and found that approximately 25% of documents contained environmental criteria and of this at least 20% were ‘light green’ meaning 1-3 clear specifications were found in the tender document.

Pender et al (2004) examined the use of “Environmental Claims” as a means of promoting sustainable consumption in Ireland and summarised that while the public

procurement process has the potential to promote the use of environmental labels and claims, little work has been done to harness this potential to date. The authors recommend research to establish a baseline level of GPP in Ireland and that comparisons should be made with other countries. The report encourages the use of the EU guidelines on GPP.

2.3 General Public Procurement in Ireland

2.3.1 Responsibilities

Department of Finance

The Department of Finance (DoF) has the overall responsibility for the supervision of public procurement in Ireland. The DoF has an internal unit for the administration and supervision of public procurement, namely the National Public Procurement Policy Unit (NPPPU) (DoF).

The NPPPU has four streams of work as follows:

- (i) general procurement matters including transposition of directives, production of guidance and advising buyers (it also runs the government contracts committee);
- (ii) electronic procurement including the e-tenders website;
- (iii) construction procurement including the new fixed-price contracts and standardised pre-qualification questionnaires;
- (iv) procurement management reform and related matters.

The Government Contracts Committee (GCC)

The GCC is a committee of department officials, chaired by the Department of Finance who are concerned with significant purchasing and construction contracts. Where Departments propose to depart from the normal national contracting rules, they must request approval from the GCC (DoF (no year)).

Government Supplies Agency (GSA)

The Government Supplies Agency (GSA) is a branch of the Office of Public Works and has responsibility for central procurement on behalf of all Government Departments, including the defence forces and the prison service. Specifically the GSA procures the following categories of products; printing and binding, paper, publications, stationery, clothing, transport equipment and vehicles, cleaning materials and general office supplies (DoF, 2004).

Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government

The DoEHLG is responsible for ensuring that Local Authorities comply with the requirements of the Department of Finance. The DoEHLG provides guidance where necessary and is responsible for ensuring that national procurement policy takes account of the National Sustainability Strategy and integrates sustainable procurement in such policies and strategies.

Local Authorities

Local Authorities have the responsibility for the management of procurement within their own jurisdiction and in accordance with national policy.

2.3.2 Policy Framework

In April 2005, the National Public Procurement Policy Unit (NPPPU) launched the “National Public Procurement Policy Framework” (DoF, 2005). This framework sets out broad practices and principles for the reform of procurement in the public sector, including a requirement for procurement management reform to be included as a key strategic priority when drawing up strategy documents and a requirement for the development of corporate procurement plans and develop plans for significant purchases.

The framework document sets out the core principles of public procurement, stating that procurement policy should be:

- accountable
- competitive
- non-discriminatory and provide for equality of treatment
- fair and transparent and
- conducted with probity and integrity.

The framework provides guidance on drawing up a Corporate Procurement Plan and introduces “The Supply Positioning and Risk Evaluation Matrix” (SUPREM). This is a software tool, based on the principle that organisations need to pursue different purchasing approaches or strategies for different goods and services. The tool is used to provide a profile of an organisation’s procurement activity. The framework requires Public Bodies to then measure the achievement of their procurement objectives. There is no specific mention of GPP in the framework document. The DoEHLG and DoF have also issued guidance material for Local Authorities on the generation of Corporate Procurement Plans (DoEHLG and DoF, 2005). There was also no specific mention of GPP in this guidance material.

2.3.3 Key Terminology used in Public Procurement

The following terms have been researched and included here to provide clarity on their use in Public Procurement.

Value For Money (VFM) is a term used at both national and local level for the management of public spending and is considered to provide greater accountability to the Oireachtas and the taxpayer relating to public expenditure. VFM auditing and VFM reviews are undertaken at local and national level on a routine basis. The NPPPU framework states that “The main aim of national policy on procurement is to achieve value for money having regard to probity and accountability” and “while price is very important in determining value for money outcomes in procurement and for certain categories of purchases in particular, it is not the only variable that needs to be considered” (DoF, 2007).

Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT)

The Public Procurement Guidelines – Competitive process states that: “Contracting authorities may choose to award contracts on the basis of:

(a) the lowest priced tender or

(b) the most economically advantageous tender (MEAT) (specifying, in addition to price, various other criteria including running costs, servicing costs, level of after sales service, technical assistance, technical merit, environmental characteristics).”

All of the criteria being applied in the award process when using MEAT are given relative weightings. A calculation is then applied to determine the successful tender. Where (a) or (b) have been applied in the award of a tender then it is considered that VFM has been achieved (DoF, 2004).

Life Cycle Costing (LCC) / Whole life costing: The total cost associated with the purchase and operation of a product, service or other item, including all costs incurred over the lifecycle of the system. The objective of a life cycle cost is to assist in optimising the value of a product or service over its lifetime.

Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) is a systematic method of assessing the influence on health, environment, and resources throughout the whole life cycle of a product.

2.3.4 E-Procurement

e-tenders

In order to meet the terms of the NPPPU e-procurement strategy (DoF, 2008) a procurement website, www.e-tenders.gov.ie, is used as the primary resource for advertising tenders, for disseminating information on procurement (guidelines, news etc.) and for all advertising and creation of notices for the Official Journal of the European Union.

LAQuotes

LAQuotes is an online quotation system developed by Kerry County Council in partnership with other Local Authorities. It provides a platform for Public Body Suppliers to provide annual quotations to Local Authorities for plant hire and haulage, tool hire and other supplies and services such as Electrical products, janitorial products, concrete products etc. LAQuotes is found at www.laquotes.ie.

2.3.5 Procurement procedures in Public Bodies, including Local Authorities

Guidance documents

Guidance on the Public Authority procurement process is communicated mainly through the Department of Finance E-tenders website (www.etenders.gov.ie). Up to 2004 the principal guidance document was the “Green Book”; a set of procurement guidelines issued in 1994. These guidelines were then superseded by the government publication Government Procurement Guidelines – Competitive Process 2004 which takes cognisance of developments in EU legislation and policy (DoF, 2004). These new guidelines set out specific steps to be followed in conducting an appropriate competitive process when procuring and tendering for works, supplies and services under EU and national rules.

Summary of the tendering process

1) Determination of procurement threshold

Depending on the value of a proposed contract, procurement thresholds apply and specific procurement rules then apply to those threshold levels. Thresholds and rules are set out in the EU Directives 2004/18/EC (procurement procedures of public sector bodies) and 2004/17/EC (utilities sector). These thresholds are revised by the Commission at two-yearly intervals. In general, contracts for public sector procurement and for utilities fall under EU procurement rules above thresholds of €206,000 and €412,000 respectively. For contracts above €50,000 a formal tendering process is recommended by the Department of Finance procurement guidelines. For

contracts below €50,000 quotations are required and the objective selection of the most suitable candidate is considered as satisfactory (DoF, 2004).

2) Advertising

Where a formal tendering process is required, below EU thresholds (€50,000 to €206,000) the tendering body may decide to use a “restricted” or “open” tendering process. The restricted process involves requesting tenders by direct invitation and without advertising. The open process involves the advertisement of a “Contract Notice” in public media. Publication on the www.etenders.gov.ie website is the most common forum used due to savings in advertising costs; however other equivalent forms of media will suffice. For contracts above EU thresholds, there is a requirement to advertise on the Official Journal of the European Union and using the standard forms as set out in the Directives. The use of two specific websites facilitates these requirements namely the Irish E-tenders website (www.etenders.gov.ie) or the EU equivalent (<http://simap.europa.eu>) (DoF, 2004).

3) The Contract Notice

The contract notice is the first legal document associated with a tender. The notice sets out the specifications, selection criteria and award criteria for the works/supplies/services. The specifications of the contract notice consist of an outline of the works and requirements of the contract. The selection criteria of the notice outline the minimum requirements that the tendering body/person must satisfy to be able to fulfil the tender e.g. financial standing, experience of similar contracts, qualifications etc. The award criteria show whether the contract will be issued on the basis of lowest price or most economically advantageous tender (M.E.A.T.). Where M.E.A.T. is to be applied, the notice must specify the criteria that will be used to determine M.E.A.T. e.g. cost, lead in times, security of supply, environmental risk/impact. Each criterion is given a weighting and details of these weighting must be provided on the contract notice. The contract notice also includes information such as the type of tender i.e. open or restricted, relevant dates, EU procurement codes etc, and is often accompanied by additional documentation providing more detail on the contract specifications and criteria (DoF, 2004).

4) Assessment and Award of Tenders

All tenders received must be assessed in an unbiased and transparent manner. The tenders should be assessed in accordance with the selection and award criteria. All tendering bodies must be informed of the results. The unsuccessful candidates must be informed first. The successful candidate is then informed of the intent to award the contract. There is a waiting period of 14 days to allow for possible challenges from unsuccessful tenders. For contracts above EU thresholds, the contract award details must be advertised on the E-tenders website. Negotiation following the assessment of tenders is prohibited. There are other procedures in relation to technical dialogue, competitive dialogue and framework agreements which are used in appropriate circumstances (DoF, 2004).

2.4 Obstacles to GPP

2.4.1 Obstacles due to Legislation, Trade and Policy

The World Trade Organisation's "Agreement on Government Procurement (AGP)" (WTO, 1996) is the only plurilateral trade agreement relevant to Government Procurement (Perera et al 2007). This is not a mandatory agreement but Ireland has signed up via the EU. This agreement has the cornerstone principle of ensuring that government procurement by its members is undertaken with non-discrimination and transparency. While there is no specific mention of GPP, the AGP requires that "Technical specifications prescribed by procuring entities shall, where appropriate...be based on international standards, where such exist; otherwise, on national technical regulations, recognized national standards, or building codes." Such requirements may make the establishment of local green criteria very onerous when no such standards, regulations or codes exist. However there are general exceptions to the agreement which allows members to derogate from their commitments on grounds where there is a need for the protection of "human, animal or plant life or health" Parties to the Agreement are required to treat the products, services and suppliers of any other Party to the Agreement in a manner that is "no less favourable" than they give to their domestic products, services and suppliers.

An OECD survey undertaken in 2007 to report on the implementation of the 2002 OECD Recommendation, found that the legal framework in place for its members was not a significant barrier to GPP but the interpretation of the legislation was. The EU has taken significant steps to remove legislative obstacles to GPP and appear proactive in this regard, including the introduction of new legislation and guidelines as discussed above and later. However, at the beginning of 2008, only fourteen of twenty-five Member States have yet adopted national plans on GPP, a further twelve are under development, including Ireland's (EU Commission, 2008). These plans were due to be drawn up by the end of 2006, in accordance with the 2003 IPP Communication, and revised every three years thereafter (EU Commission, 2003).

2.4.3 Other Obstacles Identified

Bouwer et al. (2005) identified "Five leading obstacles" to the uptake of GPP; Perception of cost, lack of knowledge, lack of management support, lack of tools and lack of training. Irish respondents to the survey considered a lack of knowledge and training to be the primary obstacle. The 2008 EU Commission Communication, Public procurement for a better environment, identified six similar obstacles to the take-up of GPP as follows:

- 1) The limited establishment of environmental criteria and the use thereof
- 2) Insufficient information on the costs of environmentally friendly products/services
- 3) Low awareness of the benefits of GPP
- 4) Uncertainty of the legal implications of the use of green criteria
- 5) Lack of political support
- 6) Lack of coordination of best practice between regions and Local Authorities

A number of other surveys and reports also identify other similar obstacles including budgetary constraints, lack of acceptable alternatives, personnel resources (Chatzilampou, 2005), differing views on the inclusion of green criteria and a lack of


interest (ICLEI, 2003), de-centralised procurement (OECD, 2007) and perceptions of quality (CES, 2006).

The credibility and regulation of environmental or green claims made on products has also been found to be lacking in Ireland compared to other Member States. Poorly informed consumers are unable to differentiate between those products which genuinely have a low environmental impact and those which only are taking advantage of a niche market. There is a need for the development of a code of practice for environmental claims and the encouragement of certification standards in so far as is possible (Pender et al, 2004). Changing the behaviour in purchasing departments, the “purchase price only” mind set rather than life cycle costs and the integration of GPP into existing management systems have also been highlighted by ICLEI (2007) as challenges to the integration of GPP. Where GPP is introduced as part of an EMS and where the management of the EMS is segregated from policy development, GPP can be undervalued as a policy instrument and not reach its full potential.

2.5 Best Practice Development

Many of the obstacles outlined above i.e. lack of support, resources, training may be overcome through policy direction and provisional funding from central government. A lack of information, clearly defined criteria and a lack of tools for GPP may be more difficult obstacles to overcome and may impede the development of GPP at Local Authority level. The following is an overview of some of the current guidance and tools available to assist public procurement officers. The guidance available is of two main types; guidance on the development of GPP policy and systems and guidance on the technical criteria of individual products and services.

At international level, the development of guidelines and best practice is driven mainly by the bodies mentioned previously such as the UNEP (Marrakesh Task Force on Sustainable Public Procurement), which is charged with the development of guidance and toolkits for Sustainable Public Procurement. ICLEI are currently developing a Marrakech Taskforce toolkit (ICLEI (no year)). The International Green Purchasing Network (IGPN) have a green purchasing and GPP starter kit available



on their website (IGPN). This kit provides some training material for the development of a GPP programme, along with an online reference library. Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) have launched the Procura+, Sustainable Procurement Campaign and the Procura+ Exchange (ICLEI (2007)). The Procura+ Exchange provides a medium for online information sharing by procurement officials while the Procura+ Campaign has produced a number of toolkits and manuals which provide guidance on both systems development and guidance on procurement criteria for five specific areas; Buses, cleaning and maintenance, green electricity, food and catering, IT equipment and building and renovation. A number of projects which were coordinated by ICLEI in association with the EU have also produced significant tools and guidance material such as the LEAP and HEAT projects (ICLEI (2004, 2006)). The North American Green Purchasing Initiative (NAGPI) provides a self assessment tool, databases and best practice guidance for the USA, Canada and Mexico and provides links to twelve other relevant international sites (NAGPI, 2008).

The most valuable guidance available for Irish Local Authority procurement officials appears to be the European Union “Europa” website (European Commission, 2008). This provides a training toolkit on GPP, background information on the legal framework, links to various studies, reports including the “Buying Green Handbook” (EU Commission, 2004) and a GPP Glossary. Most of the information and guidance contained on the Europa website is as a result of the extensive studies and reports that have been funded by the EU over the last few years (e.g. the RELIEF project (ICLEI) and the Take-5 contract (Bouwer et al, 2006 and 2006). The EU Commission (2008), “Public procurement for a better environment”, has detailed criteria for 10 specific products and service groups which have been identified as “priority” sectors for GPP, paper and printing, cleaning products, office machinery, construction, transport, furniture, energy, food and catering, textiles and clothing. Criteria for health sector equipment are under development.

Individual national and state guidelines and toolkits are also available which may be of assistance to the GPP practitioner and to mention all would be beyond the scope of this literature review. An extensive list of such guidelines and toolkits can be found

through the websites of most of the international bodies mentioned above. In general there is good guidance available of the development of GPP policies and systems but the guidance available for setting specific product criteria is limited but is being developed continuously. The use of Environmental/Green Standards and Eco-Labels must be strictly controlled within any procurement process. Many Eco-labels have been integrated into the Europa criteria, as listed above. It should be noted that European procurement legislation does not require or allow the vendor to require any supplier or tendering party to hold an Eco-label. The Eco-Labels may only be used to assist in drawing up technical specifications or checking compliance (EU Commission, 2004). Standards may only be used in a similar manner.

Chapter 3: Methodology

3.1 Introduction:

To facilitate the variety of structures and policies within Local Authorities, a broad methodology consisting of five analysis tools was adopted. The first two tools consist of surveys issued to Local Authorities, Other Public Bodies and Public Body Suppliers. The third tool looks at Public Body tender documents, the fourth looks at Local Authority corporate plans and the final tool looks at case studies of Green Procurement in practice.

3.2 Tool 1: Survey of Irish Local Authorities and Other Public Bodies

The survey consisted of a questionnaire issued to all 34 Irish Local Authorities and twenty-three Other Public Bodies. These Other Public Bodies consisted of bodies which were considered to be engaged in the procurement of similar goods and services to that of Local Authorities e.g. the Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Public Works, Marine Institute, Electricity Supply Board, Fisheries Boards etc. The questionnaire was of a similar format to that of previous International and European surveys i.e. the "Take 5" report and the OECD report.

The Questionnaire asked for the following:

- General information on the use of green criteria when purchasing
- Information on the integration of GPP into EMS
- Identification of possible obstacles that exist to GPP
- Identification of green criteria currently used when procuring goods and services

Appendix A presents the full text of the questionnaire used.

Objective:

In general terms, the survey aimed to determine the current state of play of GPP in Irish Local Authorities and a sample of Public Bodies. The survey aimed to enable a qualitative comparison with previous reports.

3.3 Tool 2: Survey of Public Body Suppliers

This questionnaire was a modified version of the questionnaire used in Tool 1. Similar questions were asked but from the Public Body Suppliers perspective. Appendix B presents the full text of the questionnaire used.

Objectives:

The main objectives of Tool 2 were to:

Ascertain the current use and perceptions of GPP in suppliers to Irish Public Bodies.
Determine their willingness and ability to provide Green goods and services.

It should be noted that the questionnaires used in Tools 1 and 2 have certain limitations. The questionnaires were directed to known individuals within the organisations surveyed. While procurement officers were the primary target in Local Authorities, environmental awareness officers and general environmental staff were also the recipients. The questionnaires issued to Public Body Suppliers were not directed at any particular staff level. The use of such questionnaires may result in biased answers where the more politically or socially acceptable answers may be given. In the case of Public Body Suppliers, the answers which are deemed more favourable may be given. In most cases the results are not based on any detailed analysis of procurement practices of the organisation but on the personal opinion of the recipient.

3.4 Tool 3: The Assessment of Tender Documents for Green Criteria

This tool was similar to that used in Tool 1 of the “Take 5” report (Bouwer et al, 2005). This involved an examination of tender documents of Local Authorities for seven of the ten priority categories specified in the report, namely; construction, food and catering, furniture, paper and printing, energy supply, office machinery and computers and cleaning services. Green criteria were identified within the tender documents and classified as per the “Take 5” study as follows:

- ‘Not’ means that no green specifications were found
- ‘Grey’ means that attempts for green specifications were found, but that these would not lead to a greener product. An example of a specification which is not well defined is: ‘Environmental aspects are considered.’ Here it is not clear what kind of information is requested.
- ‘Light green’ means one to three clear specifications were found in the tender document. An example of a well-defined specification is: ‘personal computers must fulfil the requirements for energy use defined for the Energy Star label’.
- ‘Solid green’ means more than three specifications were found.

Objective:

The main objective of Tool 3 was to:

Assess the tender documents of Irish Local Authorities for green criteria and compare with a previous European study.

3.5 Tool 4: The assessment of Local Authority Corporate Procurement Plans for Green Procurement strategies or policies

Background

In July 2005, the National Public Procurement Policy Unit (NPPPU) of the Department of Finance produced the National Public Procurement Policy Framework requiring all Public Bodies (including all Local Authorities) to produce Corporate Procurement Plans. The Corporate Procurement Plan is intended to be an effective tool to identify and review current procurement profiles and practices and to ensure that the Public Bodies procurement function operates in accordance with best practice and that it supports effective Value for Money. The primary objectives of Corporate Procurement Plans are to achieve greater Value for Money by:

- Assessing and determining a Local Authorities future purchasing needs and to ensure that they are carried out in a coordinated and strategic manner
- Review, and where possible streamline the administration of the existing purchasing processes and where possible using e-Procurement initiatives, to achieve financial and resources savings
- Utilising the combined purchasing power of the Local Authority to achieve greater value for money when purchasing goods and services in the market place, through the use of aggregated purchasing arrangements and increased use of contract tendering. (DoF, 2005)

This tool aims to get an overview of existing corporate policies on GPP in Irish Local Authorities through the examination of Corporate Procurement Plans.

Objective:

The main objective of Tool 4 was to:

Identify the prevalence of Green Procurement Policies and classify as strong or weak.

For the purposes of this study, twenty-five Local Authority Corporate Procurement Plans were examined for the existence of Green Procurement policies or strategies. These policies were then compared and qualitatively graded as being strong or weak. A strong reference is an actual reference to GPP, or equivalent. A weak reference is a reference that may be inferred as engaging green procurement principles but not directly mentioning GPP.

3.6 Tool 5: A Review of a selection of Green Procurement Case Studies

Case Studies were selected to cover developments of both green procurement within an organisation and specific to commercial sectors.

Two Case Studies were selected to demonstrate the development of green procurement within an organisation namely, Barcelona City Council, Spain and The London Fire Brigade.

Four Case Studies were selected to represent development in specific commercial sectors as follows:

- Staffordshire County Council: The re-use of asphalt arisings with secondary material on the A52 Staffordshire, Stoke to Ashboune
- USEPA: “green cafeteria” project in the Research Triangle Park (RTP), North Carolina
- Cork City Council: Transport and transport Services - Biofuel Fleet
- IHOBE (Basque Public Authority for Environmental Management), Spain: Procurement of Furniture

Objective:

The main objective of Tool 5 was to:

Examine existing policies and methodologies that are being used in practice by green procurement practitioners and to outline the lessons learned within the particular case studies.

Chapter 4: Results

4.1 Results of Tools 1 and 2 (Questionnaires): Current Status and a comparison with the results of the “Take-5” study

This chapter presents the results of the questionnaires issued to all thirty-four Local Authorities, twenty-five Other Public Bodies and twenty Public Body Suppliers.

PART 1: Background information on Questionnaire Responses

4.1.1 Response rate to questionnaires

Table 1: Response rate to questionnaires

	Local Authorities	Other Public Bodies	Public Body Suppliers	Take 5 Study (For Comparison)
Questionnaires distributed	34	23	20	8787
Responses received	26	12	14	865
Response rate	76%	52%	70%	11%

4.1.2 Questionnaire Recipients

As not all Public Bodies have employed procurement officers, the questionnaire recipients were asked to give their title in the organization and asked if they were responding for their whole organization or just their own department. The questionnaires returned were completed by Procurement Officers, Environmental Awareness Officers and other personnel at executive grade or higher. Responses were completed in the main at management level and the majority of the respondents answered for their whole organisation rather than their own section or department. Recipients were asked how centralised their organisations purchasing was on a scale of 1 to 5 (where 5 is fully centralised). The results were diverse in the Local Authority sector, with results evenly spread from 1 to 4. Other Public Bodies were also diverse but five of the twelve respondents placed their procurement at level 4

indicating a more centralised procurement structure. Public Body Suppliers ranged Public Body procurement from 1 to 5 on the same scale.

PART 2: Non Product Related Questions

4.1.3 Results on Non-Product related questions

This part of the questionnaire aims to outline the current level of knowledge of GPP in Irish Public Bodies and their Suppliers. Their opinions on the benefits and the obstacles to GPP are examined and their suggestions for the development of GPP are requested.

Recipients were asked if they were aware of the European Commission Communication, "Public procurement for a better environment" COM (2008)400/2. This is the current principal EU policy document on GPP. The results are presented in Table 2.

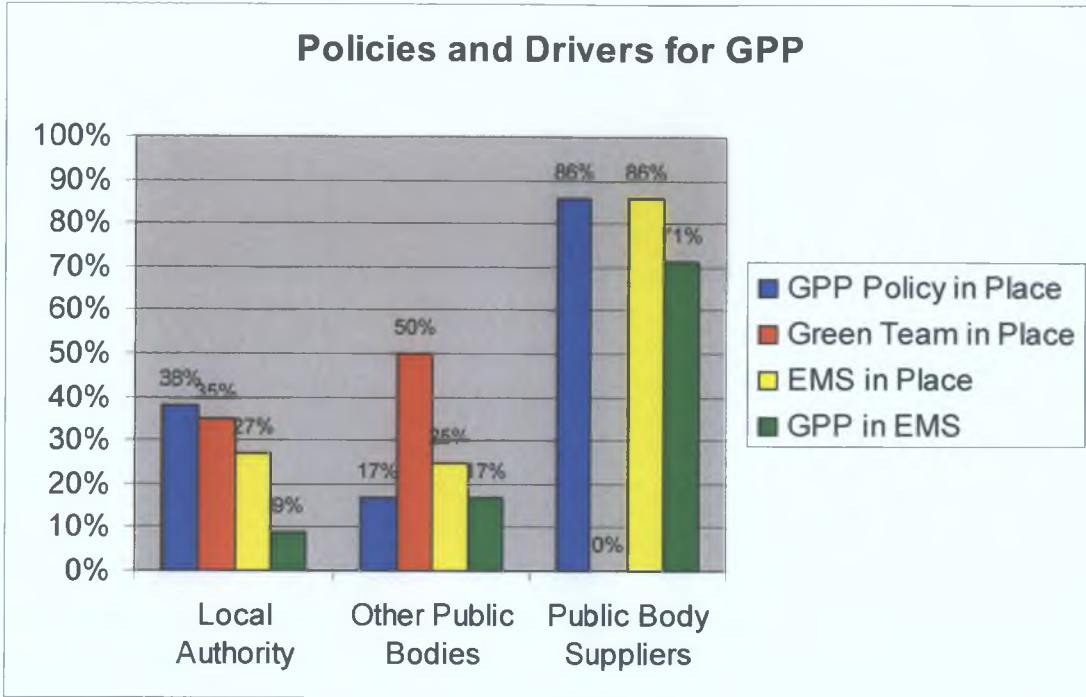
Table 2: Awareness of COM (2008)400/2

Aware of COM (2008)400/2	Yes	No	Heard of it but don't know much about it
Local Authority	38%	35%	27%
Other Public Bodies	42%	25%	33%
Public Body Suppliers	21%	29%	50%

Existing policies and possible drivers for Green Procurement

The recipients were asked if a GPP policy was currently in existence in their organisation or if there was a "Green Team" or an Environmental Management System in place. These are examined as drivers to the development of GPP. Where EMS existed, they were asked the type of EMS and if GPP was included. The results are presented in Figure 1.

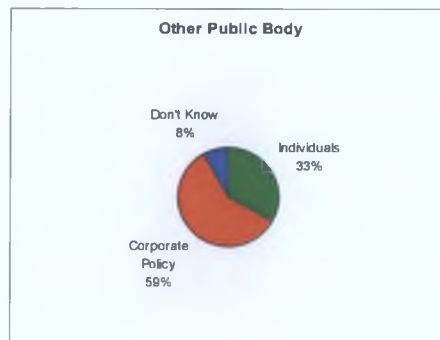
Figure 1: Policies and Drivers for GPP



The recipients were then asked if they felt that the move towards green procurement was driven by individual preferences rather than corporate policy. The results are presented in Figures 2 and 3 below.

Figure 2: Local Authority Response

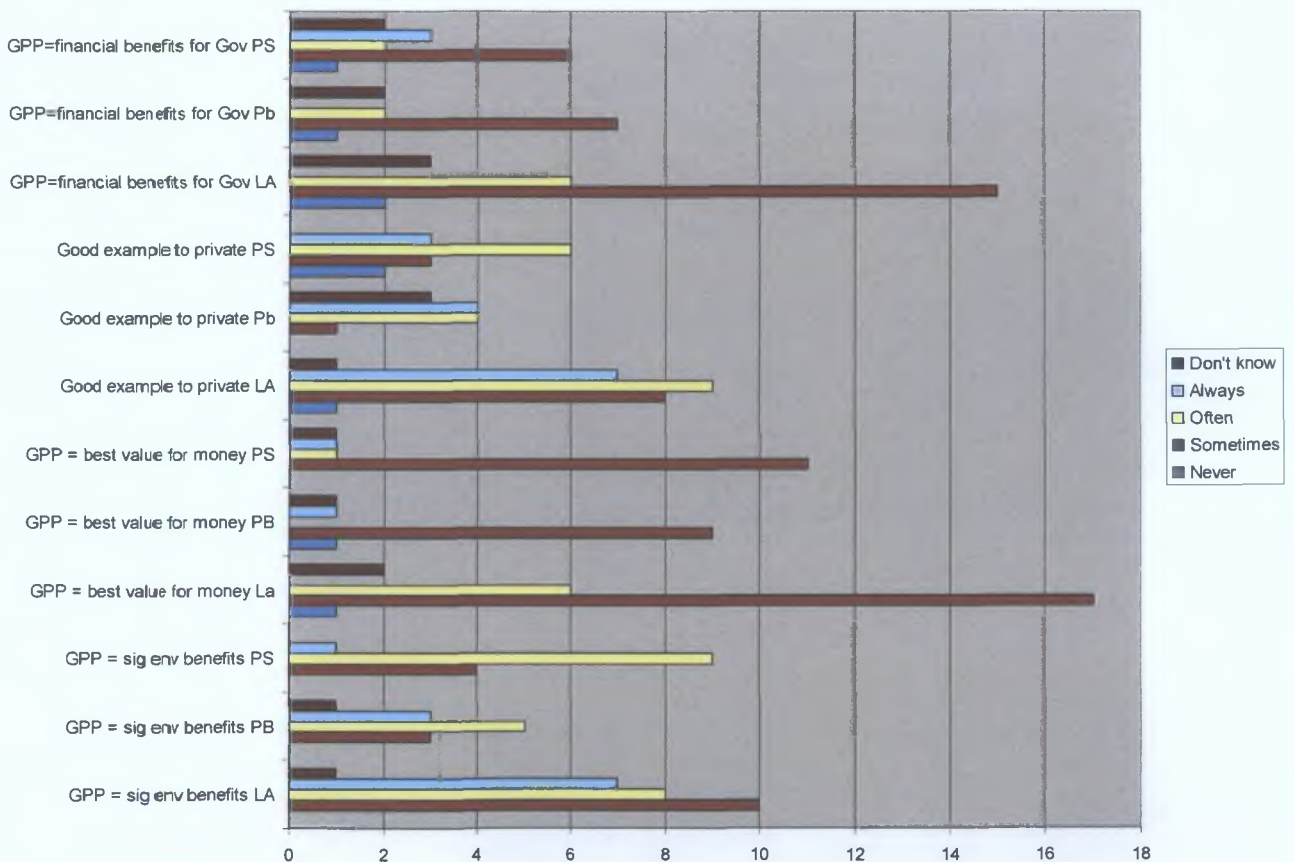
Figure 3: Other Public Body Response



Opinion on the benefits of GPP

In order to determine the existing perception of GPP in Public Bodies, recipients were asked for their opinion on the benefits that can be derived from GPP. The results are presented in Figure 4 for the four main options selected from the questionnaire namely; “GPP results in financial benefits for government, GPP provides a good example to the private sector, GPP gives best value for money and GPP results in significant environmental benefits”.

Figure 4: Benefits of GPP



Recipients were also asked to select other benefits where in their opinion GPP could have a positive impact. These other relevant benefits are presented in Appendices C, D and E. and those offered by the respondents as comments included; “environmental awareness”, “greater competition in the green products market”, “may

improve efficiencies in procurement”, “GPP may assist in changing the culture within an organisation e.g. in the areas of waste production”, “cultural and balanced regional development spin offs”, “Contributes to reducing carbon costs”, “Improves institution’s image and promotes their environmental ethos”.

Obstacles for GPP

As in the “Take-5 Report”, the questionnaire recipients were requested to give their view on ten possible obstacles to GPP. They were asked to select the three obstacles that they considered to be the most significant.

Table 3: The five “leading” obstacles are as follows (for comparison the leading obstacles outlined in the Take-5 Report have been included):

Obstacles to GPP	Local Authority	Other Public Body	Public Body Supplier	EU Green-7 (Take-5 Report)
Lack of Management Support	65%	33%	21%	34%
Perception that environmentally friendlier products would be more expensive	54%	66%	64%	46%
Perception that environmentally friendlier products are not available	35%	8%	36%	Not in top 5
Lack of Training	35%	25%	7%	24%
Lack of Interest	23%	25%	29%	Not in top 5
Lack of knowledge about the environment and how to develop criteria	38%	33%	36%	27%
Lack of Practical Tools and information	8%	0%	14%	21%



Where respondents specified their own obstacles, these included the following: “Deviation from lowest cost very difficult, despite more recent criterion of “best value”; “missing link between environment/green team and procurement team”; “concerns that environmentally friendly products are inferior”; “Public perception of wastefulness if cheapest option not taken”; “Perception that most products are green-oriented anyway, so marks for green aspects are largely wasted”; “Availability of information on green performance of service providers”. Public Body Suppliers stated that the lack of a monetary incentive and the lack of the use of green criteria by Public Bodies are both obstacles.

Recipients were asked to give an opinion on aids to start or develop GPP in their organisation. They were asked to select from a list of options or specify their own.

Table 4: Aids to develop GPP (Selected from a list provided)

Aid to develop GPP	Local Authority	Other Public Body	Public Body Supplier
Access to written information (e.g. manual, procurement guidelines)	54%	42%	29%
An exchange of current green procurement practices	54%	50%	43%
Training workshops	62%	58%	36%
Advice from an external consultant	31%	25%	29%
Access to an online database of environmental criteria	50%	66%	29%

Where respondents specified their own aids, these included the following comments: “Complete “buy-in” from Executive Management”; “Availability of energy ratings on equipment or other indices on services etc”; “Promotion of relevant case studies”; “Funding”; “Clear direction/policy from DoEHLG, not just guidelines and advice”; “Some knowledge of real cost / benefit of GPP vs. existing practices”.

Recipients were then asked how they would rate the level of coordination between government departments in implementing GPP policy (on a scale of poor to excellent). The responses, both Public Bodies and Public Body Suppliers all rated the coordination as either poor or fair.

PART 3 – Use of Green Criteria

This part of the questionnaire aims to show the recipients perception of the current use of green criteria when procuring goods and services.

4.1.4 Use of Green Criteria in the Procurement of Goods and Services

Recipients were asked a general question as follows: “When purchasing, are there environmental criteria taken into account in your organisation?”

Table 5: General use of environmental criteria

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Local Authority	80%	12%	8%
Other Public Bodies	83%	17%	0
Public Body Suppliers	93%	7%	0

Public Body Suppliers were also asked if they use green criteria when selling their product of which twelve of fourteen respondents said they did. They were also asked if they have been asked to provide evidence of green criteria by a Public Body. Four said yes, eight said no and two said they didn't know.

Use of Green Criteria across EU Communication Categories

Recipients were asked to break down the use of criteria within ten priority categories.

The results are presented in Table 6 and Table 7 below.

Table 6: Results of Criteria used by Local Authorities per category with comparisons with the EU Take-5 Report in brackets.

Product/Service	Green Criteria Always Used (EU Avg.)	Green Criteria Often/Sometimes Used (EU Avg.)	Don't know/Never (EU Avg.)
Construction (materials and service)	8% (24%)	42% (23%)	50% (53%)
Food and Catering Services	15% (25%)	31% (21%)	54% (54%)
Transport and transport services	8% (27%)	50% (19%)	42% (54%)
Energy	27% (25%)	50% (14%)	23% (61%)
Office machinery and computers	15% (30%)	62% (22%)	23% (48%)
Clothing uniforms and other textiles	0% (14%)	54% (16%)	46% (70%)
Paper and printing services	27% (36%)	46% (16%)	27% (48%)
Furniture	0% (25%)	42% (20%)	58% (55%)
Cleaning products and services	8% (32%)	58% (17%)	34% (51%)
Equipment used in the health sector	0% (17%)	12% (21%)	88% (62%)

Table 7: Results of Criteria used by Other Public Bodies per category with comparisons with the EU Take-5 Report.

Product/Service	Green Criteria Always Used (EU Avg.)	Green Criteria Often/Sometimes Used (EU Avg.)	Don't know/Never (EU Avg.)
Construction (materials and service)	42% (24%)	25% (23%)	33% (53%)
Food and Catering Services	17% (25%)	33% (21%)	50% (54%)
Transport and transport services	25% (27%)	42% (19%)	33% (54%)
Energy	25% (25%)	42% (14%)	33% (61%)
Office machinery and computers	42% (30%)	42% (22%)	17% (48%)
Clothing uniforms and other textiles	8% (14%)	17% (16%)	75%(70%)
Paper and printing services	50% (36%)	25% (16%)	25% (48%)
Furniture	25% (25%)	17% (20%)	58% (55%)
Cleaning products and services	25% (32%)	25% (17%)	50% (51%)
Equipment used in the health sector	0% (17%)	8% (21%)	92% (62%)

Type of Green Criteria Used

Recipients were then asked what type of environmental criteria they use when procuring goods and services. The results are presented in Table 8 below.

Table 8: Type of criteria used

Green Criteria Used	Local Authority	Other Public Body	Public Body Supplier
No Criteria used	15%	17%	7%
The criteria set by an eco-label (e.g. EU-flower, Nordic Swan, Blaue Engel, etc.)	15%	42%	21%
Increased use of renewable resources	42%	50%	50%
Ecologically grown products	11%	8%	0%
Reduced packaging	42%	50%	64%
Environmentally friendlier transport options	23%	42%	29%
Use of recycled material	46%	83%	71%
Use of products with reduced energy use over life time	35%	66%	36%
Reduced use of water	27%	25%	43%
Reduced content of toxic/harmful chemicals	35%	33%	36%
Decrease of polluting emissions	19%	25%	14%
Design for re-use, dismantling and recycling	23%	33%	36%
No hazardous waste over life time	19%	17%	21%
Other (please specify):	4%	17%	7%
No environmental criteria used	15%	0%	0%

Use of LCA and EMS as criteria

Recipients were asked to clarify if they use Life Cycle Analysis or Environmental Management Systems as criteria. The results are presented in Table 9 below.

Table 9: Use of LCA and EMS as criteria

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	Don't know
Use of Life Cycle Analysis as a criteria – Local Authorities	11%	31%	16%	0%	42%
Use of Life Cycle Analysis as a criteria – Other Public Bodies	17%	25%	17%	17%	25%
Use of EMS as a criteria – Local Authorities	38%	23%	0%	0%	38%
Use of EMS as a criteria – Other Public Bodies	42%	25%	8%	8%	17%

Public Body Suppliers were asked if they could provide Life Cycle Analysis for the product or service that they provide. Four said that they could, three said they couldn't and seven said that they didn't know if they could provide Life Cycle Analysis.

Sources of Guidance on GPP

Recipients were asked where they source guidance on the environmental criteria they use.

The results are presented in Table 10 below.



Table 10: Sources of guidance

Sources of Guidance on the use of Green Criteria	Local Authority	Other Public Body
Ecolabelling schemes (i.e. EU Ecolabel, Nordic Swan, Blaue Engel, etc.)	11%	42%
Public information available through the internet	31%	50%
Own environmental department/internal environmental expertise	31%	42%
'Buy it Green' Handbook on Green Public Procurement (by EU Commission)	35%	17%
National guidelines	38%	42%
Own organisational guidelines	19%	33%
Producers/suppliers	27%	50%
External expertise (consultancy)	4%	33%
Cooperation with other organisations	11%	25%
Courses/seminars on environmental aspects of procurement	15%	17%

As a final question, Public Body recipients were asked if they assess their Public Body Suppliers to ensure that they are in compliance with the legislation that they themselves are responsible for regulating. The results are presented in Table 11 below.

Table 11: Compliance with legislation under the remit of the Public Body

	Yes	No	Don't know
Local Authority	47%	11%	42%
Other Public Bodies	83%	0%	17%

4.1.5 Models currently in use for the integration of GPP

Through telephone communication and email, it was found that there are a number of models being used to integrate green procurement locally in public services in Ireland. These models are presented below:

1) Some Local Authorities and Public Bodies have established “Green Teams”.

These are generally formed on an ad-hoc basis, often being driven by the Environmental Awareness Officers or Green Business Officers of the Local Authorities and occasionally in conjunction with the LA partnership process. The team can consist of representatives from each section of the LA or can simply be a working group set up to promote inter alia green procurement within the Local Authority.

2) Many Local Authorities have engaged the services of Energy Agencies.

Energy Agencies are partly funded by Local Authorities to promote energy conservation, to raise awareness of energy issues, and to develop long-term energy policies. There are currently twelve Energy Agencies in the Republic of Ireland representing nineteen Local Authorities.

3) Some Public Bodies have existing green procurement policies for specific product types e.g. timber, cleaning services procurement policies, I.T. procurement policies, or for individual departments e.g. Fingal County Council Environment and Water Services Departments Green Procurement Policy.

4) Some green purchases are simply the result of individuals or management (without an official GPP policy) within public organisations encouraging the use of environmental criteria when purchasing or in tender documents.

5) The Government Supplies Agency (a department of the Office of Public Works) provides a centralised tendering service for most government departments, the Prison Service, the Gardai and the Defence Forces

4.3 Results of Tool 3: Current use of Green Criteria in Tender documents

The tenders analysed under Tool 3 were sourced from the public tenders website www.etenders.gov.ie and were those available and published between January and March 2009. A sample of at least three tenders was considered necessary for analysis and was found for each of seven procurement categories. Table 12 presents a summary of the data and Figures 5 to 11 present a sectoral breakdown. All results are presented in Appendix F.

Table 12: Totals of Tender documents Analysed

Organisation Type	Number of Tender Documents Analysed	% Not Green	% Grey	% Light Green	% Dark Green
Local Authority	15	40%	20%	33%	7%
Other Public Body	29	59%	17%	24%	0%
All Tenders Combined	44	52%	18%	27%	2%

Legend for Figures 5 to 11



Figure 5: Construction Sector - Breakdown of Results

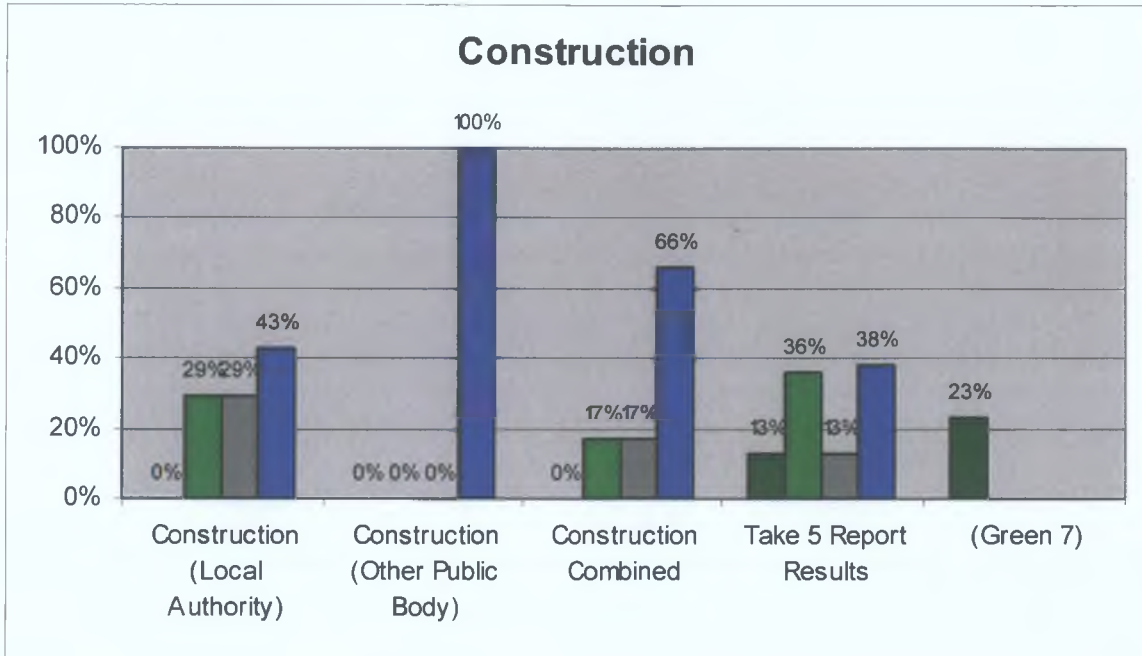


Figure 6: Food and Catering Sector - Breakdown of Results

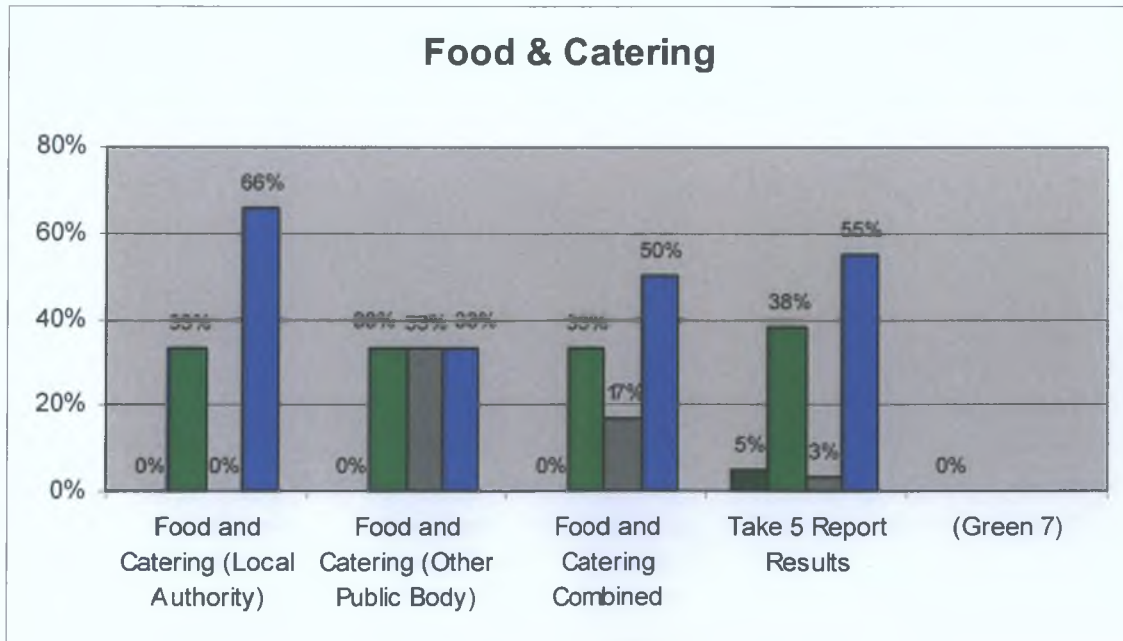


Figure 7: Furniture Sector - Breakdown of Results

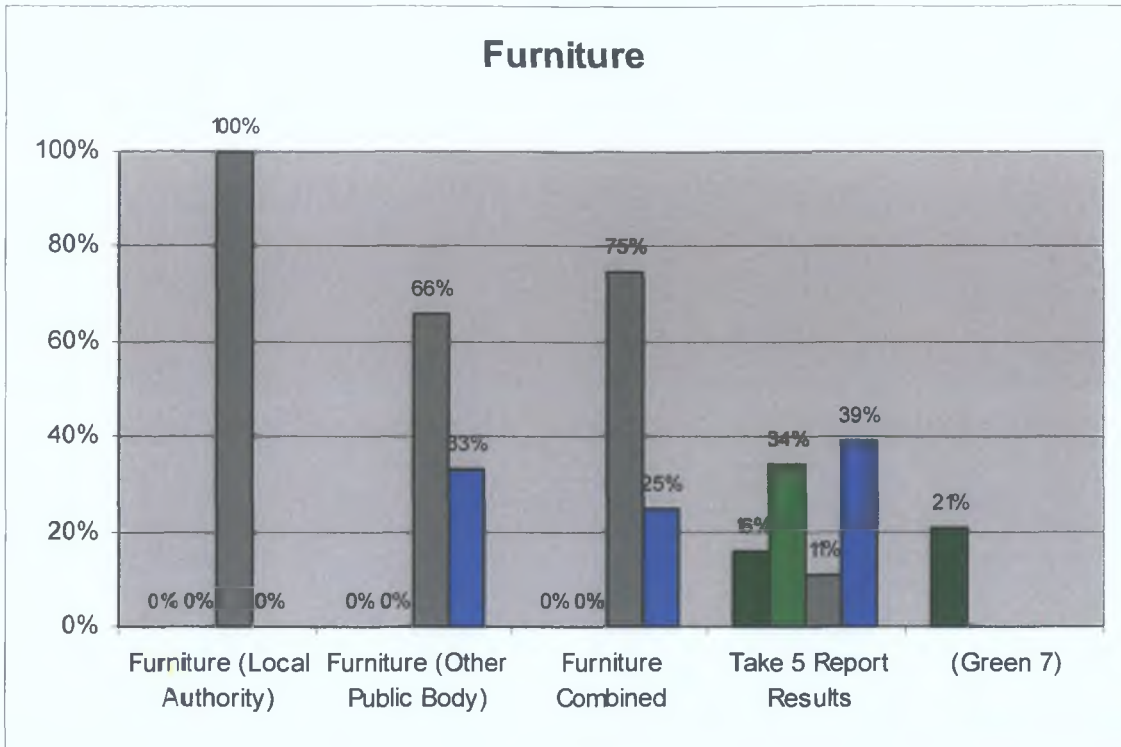


Figure 8: Cleaning Services Sector - Breakdown of Results

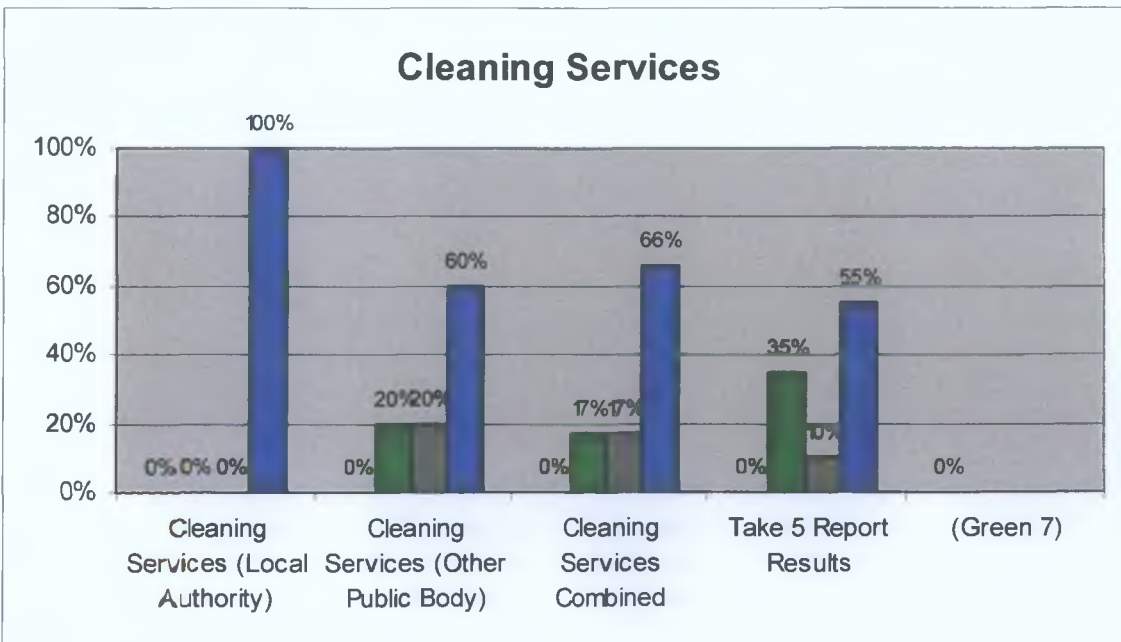


Figure 9: Paper and Printing Sector - Breakdown of Results

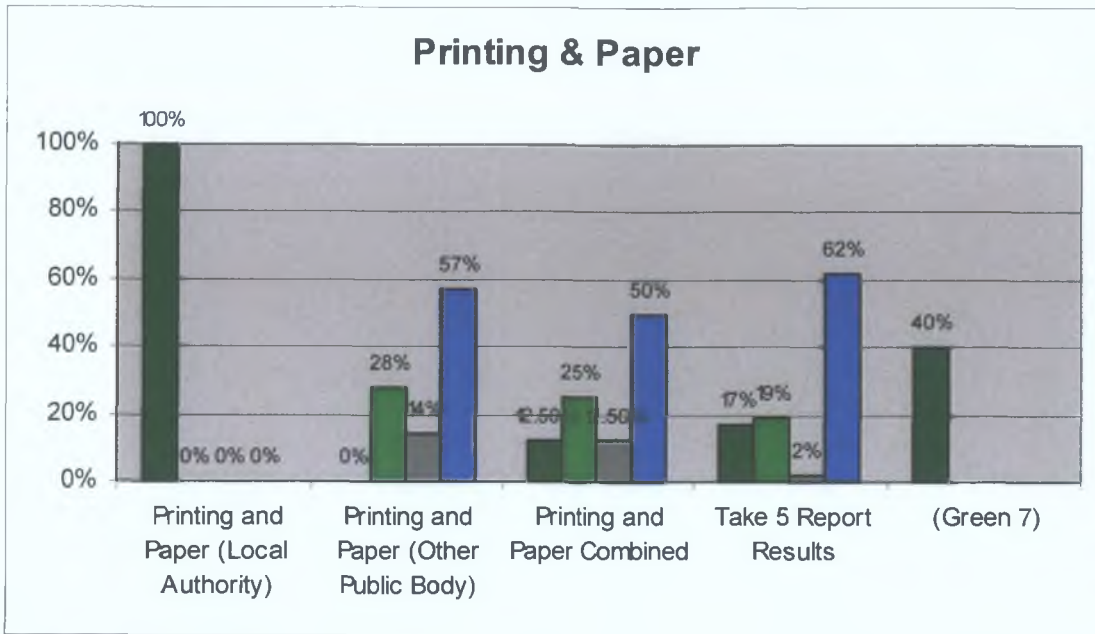


Figure 10: Office Equipment Sector - Breakdown of Results

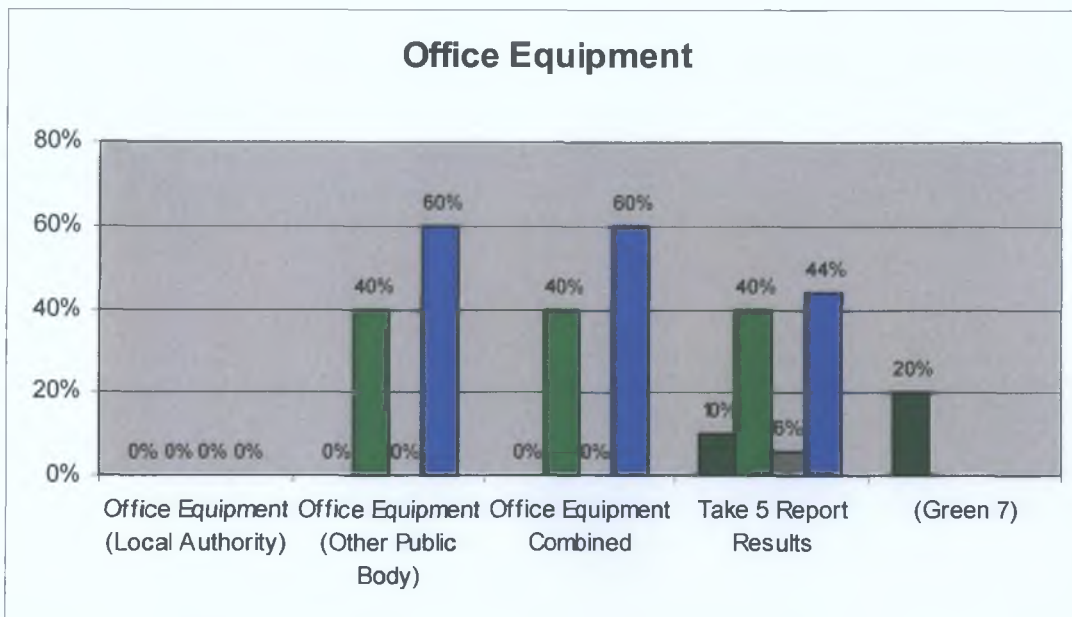
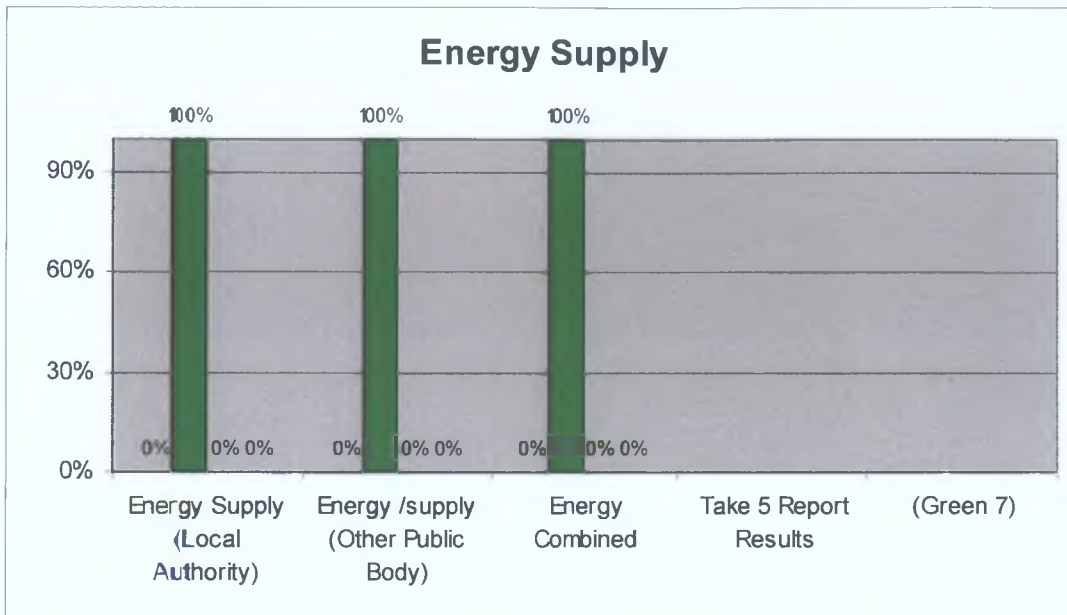


Figure 11: Energy Supply Sector - Breakdown of Results



4.4 Results of Tool 4: Analysis of GPP Policies in Local Authority Corporate Procurement Plans

Of the thirty-four Irish Local Authorities, twenty-five had published either draft or final Corporate Procurement Plans at the time of writing. There did not appear to be a standard time period required for the plans as some have a one year time frame while others are of indefinite duration. The breakdown is presented in Table 15. All results are presented in Appendix G.

Table 15: Details of References to Green Procurement in Local Authority Corporate Procurement Plans

Strength of Reference to GPP	Number of plans in each category
References to GPP	16 of 25
Strong Reference to GPP	7 of 16
Weak Reference to GPP	9 of 16

4.5 Results of Tool 5: A review of a selection of Green Procurement Case Studies

Two case studies were selected to demonstrate the development of green procurement within organisations. Four Case Studies were selected to represent development in specific commercial sectors.

4.5.1 Cases studies of the integration for GPP

Case Study 1: Barcelona City Council, Spain: Green Procurement

Background

This case study is number 16 of a series undertaken under the LEAP project (Local Environmental Management Systems and Procurement). The project was funded by the European Commission under the LIFE-Environment program. Since 2000, Barcelona City Council has been developing the 'Green Office' programme which aims to introduce a culture of sustainable procurement within the organisation. They have also participated in projects related to social and ethical procurement, such as the CARPE (Cities as responsible procurers in Europe), the Clean Clothes Campaign, that is being lead by SETEM (Fair Trade NGO) and in ICLEI's "BigNet" programme. They are also members of Procura+. In 2001, the Barcelona City Public Authority introduced a Government Measure requiring municipal bodies, including

Barcelona City Council, to take environmental requirements into account when tendering contracts for goods and services.

Development of Green Procurement within the organisation

The Barcelona City Public authority has introduced a wide range of strategies in order to develop green procurement. These include:

- Ecoaudits - Used as a tool to monitor resource consumption rates (e.g. paper consumption) and waste production within the City Public authority.
- Information, awareness raising and training - through the use of periodical journals, training, conferences, best practice guidance and procurement reports.
- Legislative and Policy measures - introduction of a bye-law for the use of recycled paper, Institutional Declaration for Fair Trade, policy and bye-law requiring responsible timber purchasing.
- Management support for actions for change in services and departments - e.g. the provision of 2000 bins for the segregated collection of paper, the placement of a “use double-sided” sticker on photocopying machines and an electronic Christmas Cards campaign.
- Investment in renewable energy for public buildings
- Development of green specifications for Public tenders

The Procurement Process:

Procurement in the Authority is somewhat centralised. There are two central procurement departments for 10 Council districts and the six main departments of the Authority, namely the Central Purchase Department and Common Services Department. For other goods and services outside the remit of these departments, there are purchase centres and there are other municipal autonomous bodies such as Parks and Gardens, Schools, Funeral Services and Social Housing, that have their own Purchasing Departments, though they have to follow the City Public Authority's rules. The environmental department has taken the lead role within the 'Green Office' programme, primarily with green procurement, but also including the

procurement of fair-trade products, certified wood, and the use of other social criteria in public tenders. The 'Green Office' programme has acquired external technical advice where necessary. As a general requirement environmental technical specifications are included in public tenders. A working group of relevant persons was created to implement and monitor a timber purchasing bye-law. Training was provided and a register developed of the wood purchased by the Authority. Every department, district, public company or municipal institute then carries out its own monitoring of the development of green procurement within its own area.

Results

The legislative and policy measures introduced have been very effective in improving green procurement in the authority, some consumption patterns have changed such as:

- The use of recycled paper, fair trade coffee and certified timber:
- Green criteria have been used in the main internal public tenders
- 30% of the coffee consumed in the City Public authority is fair trade coffee
- Approximately 60% of the paper consumed is recycled
- Segregated waste collection is in place in all municipal buildings
- In 2004, 1.557m³ of timber was bought following the criteria of the timber by-law

Lessons Learned

The role of NGOs and fair-trade groups has been crucial to put sustainable procurement issues on the Authorities' Agenda. Their lobbying has progressed issues both internally and externally, including encouraging suppliers to self-certify (e.g. certification of timber with the Forestry Stewardship Council). Information and training carried out at all levels appears very useful to change habits.

Some difficulties were encountered during the development process:

- The Legal framework was not clear where the EU directives have not been yet transposed into national law.

- External assistance was often required where proposals were technically difficult to evaluate.
- Follow-up monitoring was difficult where procurement was de-centralised.
- Products with specific technical requirements were not always available on the market.

Future plans

- Future plans include the following:
- Revision of the paper tender document to reflect the responsible consumption of timber policy
- Greening of the fuels for the city public authority's vehicles tender

(ICLEI LEAP Project (2004))

Case Study 2: London Fire Brigade

Background

The London Fire Brigade (LFB) has over 6,000 operational staff, 112 fire stations and a fleet of over 600 fire appliances and support vehicles located throughout London.

The LFB is the third largest firefighting organisation in the world, working within the 1,587 square kilometres of Greater London and protecting a resident population of 7.5 Million. LFB has embarked on an ambitious green programme including introduction of an Environmental Management System to ISO14001 standard for its procurement department.

Development of Green Procurement within the organisation

LFB has a procurement strategy in place for 2005-2008 which incorporates an Environmental Procurement Policy and Environmental Management System (EMS). The LFB's procurement strategy also encourages key suppliers to develop their own EMS, thus reducing the LFB environmental impact and improving the risk assessment of its supply chain.

Policy development

An environmental (and sustainable) procurement policy has been incorporated into the EMS setting out targets including:

- A 60% reduction in CO₂ emissions by 2025 from 1990 levels
- A 2% water reduction each year
- To recycle 80% of waste produced
- Increase the procurement of sustainable goods and services
- Use of the sustainable risk register to evaluate at least 80% of contracts
- Increase/prioritise spend with suppliers who have an EMS
- Introduction of a training programme for key staff

The EMS ensures the implementation of the strategy and the policy is fully scrutinised through the audit process. A “Responsible Procurement Action Plan” has also been developed to assign responsibilities for the implementation of the policy targets. Environmental advisors assist procurement staff with the assessment of environmental risk through the use of a high level sustainability risk register. All new LFB trainees take part in an induction programme which covers the environmental risks associated with the organisation. Suppliers are required to provide environmental information on their products or services through a pre-qualification questionnaire. Environmental and sustainability clauses are included within all contracts granted.

Results

As a result of the programme, the LFB spent £265,000 on sustainable products in 2008, an increase of 18% on 2007. Purchases include fair-trade tea, coffee and sugar and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified timber. The LFB granted a furniture disposal contract which resulted in a significant reduction in waste arisings (83% of approximately 250 tonnes reused and 12.5% recycled). This contract delivered a 50% saving over other less sustainable alternatives. In 2007/08, £230,000 in savings were made through the improvement of the energy efficiency of LFB's buildings and a saving of £28,000 through the procurement of water saving

devices. To date, LFB has reduced its CO₂ emissions by 16.8% from 1990 levels and has purchased 100% green energy for the past three years. Over 119 members of staff at 90 sites have been titled “green champions” where they are trained to encourage environmentally friendly practices, including sustainable procurement. In June 2008, LFB achieved “the Carbon Trust Standard”, one of only 6 public sector bodies in the UK. “The Heating and Ventilation News Awards” recognised the LFB’s renewable energy projects and the furniture disposal project was highly commended at “Sustainable Development UK”.

Lessons Learned

The LFB reports quarterly to its Corporate Management Board to continually improve its spend analysis data. Annual internal and external reviews of procedures, impacts and action plans are required to identify areas for improvement. The procurement department’s EMS has been used to encourage suppliers to follow best practice and to improve their own environmental performance. Continuing staff support, backed up by senior management, has been identified as key to its successful delivery.

Future plans

The LFB plans to roll out the EMS to other departments within the organisation and introduce travel planning to help reduce the organisation’s transport impact. The LFB also aims to exceed the Mayor of London’s energy efficiency targets for its buildings and achieve low emission targets for its vehicle fleet.

(London Fire Brigade (2009))

4.5.2 Sectoral Case Studies

Construction Sector

Case Study 3: The re-use of asphalt arisings with secondary material on the A52 Staffordshire, Stoke to Ashbourne

Background

In May 1997, tenders were requested by Staffordshire County Council for the reconstruction of the A52 at Kingsley Bank, midway between Stoke and Ashbourne. The works comprised the reconstruction of approximately 1 km of single carriageway using Granulated Fly Ash (GFA).

Investigations revealed significant distress in the existing bituminous layers, mainly due to a large numbers of heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) using the road. The contract was awarded to Tilcon (South) Limited (now Tarmac Central Limited) and work commenced in July 1997.

Green Procurement policy

Staffordshire County Council had a policy in place requiring the recycling of waste material and the use of local industrial by-products in such projects. It was decided to recycle the existing bituminous layers through combining the planning arising with lime and pulverized-fuel ash from the local power station at Rugeley. This material was to form the new sub-base and base for the road.

Process

The existing surface was planed (comprising bituminous materials with a small amount of granular material underlying it) and the arisings were hauled to a nearby Council depot. Here the arisings were processed by first crushing and screening into coarse and fine fractions and then the GFA was generated by recombining the arisings with pulverized-fuel ash and lime.

The GFA was returned to the site and laid in two equal 150 mm layers using conventional paving methodology.

Results

In comparison with conventional methodology, a direct cost saving of 24% was achieved, a saving of approximately £16,000. Operational savings were achieved due to reducing the time spent waiting for materials to be delivered. Overall, it is estimated that productivity of the paving operation increased by over 20%. The project achieved a 75% saving in the consumption of primary materials.

The Future

It is envisaged that any future use of this methodology will deliver outputs in excess of those achieved in this project. Far more options exist in respect of re-use of road planning arisings such as its use in new bituminous material production and consequently it is estimated that the 75% saving in consumption of primary materials achieved here could easily rise to 85% or more.

(AggRegain, 1997)

Case Study 4: Food and Catering Services – USEPA "green" cafeteria project in Research Triangle Park (RTP), North Carolina

Background

In 2001, the USEPA launched a "green cafeteria" project in Research Triangle Park (RTP) in North Carolina, culminating in the creation of the "Lakeside Café". The USEPA/RTP has over 1,550 employees. The development of this cafeteria is envisaged to be used as a model for all other programs wishing to incorporate green solutions into cafeterias.

Green Procurement Policy

With the completion of the USEPA campus at RTP, it was a goal of USEPA/RTP to design a cafeteria that reflected the USEPA's commitment to sustainability and focused on recycling, reuse and composting of cafeteria products and materials. The USEPA strove to make the "Lakeside Café" an environmentally sound and practical cafeteria that adhered to their "green" principles.

Process

The contract for the facility was won by ARAMARK and contained a number of guiding principles for Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP). The most significant in this case were the principles of source reduction and effective waste disposal. In order to fulfil their contractual obligations, ARAMARK purchased a variety of products that matched up with the guiding principles and multiple recycle and composting bins were placed in all areas of the cafeteria to ensure customers discarded all recyclable and compostable materials in the appropriate receptacles. Every two days, RTP removed compostable wastes to a composting facility sixty miles from EPA/RTP. The composter then supplies finished compost to the site at a discount price.

Results

The results achieved are set out below:

- Biodegradable plates and bowls are used for take-out only
- 100% recycled unbleached napkins used
- 100% recycled wax paper cups for used cold drinks
- 100% recycled paper cups for used hot drinks
- 100% recycled paper containers used
- Wood stirrers used for hot drinks only

(All of the above items are fully compostable and are segregated and sent for composting)

Food scraps from the kitchen and customer trays are composted while aluminium cans, plastic and glass bottles are sorted for recycling. For items directed for reuse, only those with long-lasting, environmentally preferable qualities were selected. A discount of \$.05 - \$0.15 was introduced for bringing personal mugs or cups and permanent china and stainless cutlery was made available on site to minimize the generation of waste. For the 1,550 employees, the removal of compostable waste costs approximately \$125 per week. Compostable plates cost per unit about the same as a high-end non-compostable, disposable alternative. The total cost of a "to-go" container is \$0.24, compared to approximately \$0.06 for a hinged styrene ("clamshell") container. While more expensive than the alternative, the prices charged to the cafeteria for these products are competitive and well within the terms of the contract.

Lessons Learned

The managers of the "Lakeside Café" believe that employee exposure to the café's environmental program far outweighs the costs incurred. As the term "cafeteria" can often conjure up impressions of a low budget establishment the name "Lakeside Café" was chosen. The name immediately drew positive attention from employees. Employee reaction and acceptance of the "green" program revealed to the managers of RTP that continued exposure to environmentally-preferable options increases the likelihood that employees will adopt these practices beyond the cafeteria and into their everyday lives.

Future Plans

On the "wish list" for the future development of the project is a local composting site. A local site will reduce transportation costs and reduce the impacts from air pollution that trucks create. This site may not be required however if the emphasis on reusability over compostability can be maintained and ensure that the reusable plates and cutlery cups receive first priority in usage over the biodegradable alternative.

(USEPA, (2009))

Case Study 5: Transport and Transport Services - Biofuel Fleet in Cork City Council

Background

As party to the Kyoto Protocol, the EU agreed to reduce its emissions of greenhouse gases by 8% below 1990 levels by the period 2008-2012. Ireland was allowed to increase its emissions by 13% over this period. By 2006 however, Ireland's energy-related greenhouse gas emissions increased by 50% (54% including international aviation) compared with 1990 levels. In 2002, Cork City Council began investigating the possibility of using biofuels in its fleet of 250 vehicles where the only fuels used by the City Council were petrol (2.5%) and diesel (duty paid and duty free). The Biofuel Programme, in which Cork City Council became involved, is part of the MIRACLES Project and is co-financed by the EU CIVITAS initiative.

Process

Research was carried out to assess the feasibility of converting 5-10% of the City Council Fleet to run on a lower emission fuel. CNG, LPG, electric power, hydrogen, bio-diesel, ethanol and pure cold pressed plant oil (PPO) were all assessed. The capital costs associated with establishing a fleet of vehicles running on hydrogen, electricity, or CNG were found to be outside of the limited project budget. PPO was ultimately chosen because the conversions could be carried out within budget and would have the greatest impact in the reduction of greenhouse gases from the fleet. It was decided to use cold-pressed Rape-Seed Oil (RSO) as the clean-fuel for the vehicles in question and the vehicles converted with the Elsbett conversion kit. This kit was chosen because it is suitable for a single tank, which, it was thought, should be more reliable and less complicated to use than a dual tank system. In May 2003 Cork City Council employees were trained by Elsbett and converted a number of light goods vehicles with the Elsbett kit including 11 Fiat Ducatos, 4 Ford Couriers and 1 VW Transporter. The University of Limerick were also engaged to undertake emission tests on a Fiat Ducato and a Ford Courier running on pure RSO, pure Diesel and a blend of the two. Conversions were carried out on a pilot basis with

a view to expanding fleet wide and promotion nationwide, depending on the results of the pilot.

Results and Lessons Learned

In the first 6 months there were concerns about extra visible exhaust smoke, the rancid exhaust smell and possible power losses in the converted fleet. Adjustments were made to the engines and up to 25 % diesel was added to the RSO to redress these problems.

As a result of the University of Limerick emission tests, some pollutants were higher from the RSO engine for a few seconds at start up the steady state emissions were similar for all pollutants except CO₂ (RSO is considered CO₂ neutral). Significant cold starting delays were encountered with the Fiat Ducatos. It was then discovered that fine mesh gauzes in these fuel tanks were impeding fuel flow. When these tanks and gauzes were thoroughly cleaned out, the Ducatos began to run much more smoothly.

Future Plans

All the lessons learned by Cork City Council are being developed into checklists, which will be provided in future to all people getting their vehicles fitted with an Elsbett Kit. Indeed, the Rape Seed Oil (RSO) supplier: Eilish Oils (www.eilishoils.com) has already highlighted these recommendations on their website's FAQ section.

(Civitas, (2005) and Cork City Council, (2005))

Case Study 6: Procurement of Office Furniture for the Basque Public Authority for Environmental Management – IHOBE, Spain

Background

IHOBE is a publicly owned company of the Basque Government. IHOBE has been implementing a policy on green purchasing since 2002, with a particular focus on including environmental considerations in contracts for paper, office material, information technology (IT) equipment, printing services and office furniture. IHOBE has been working with a number of private companies and universities to promote and mainstream work being done on eco-design and particularly in this case, the eco-design of furniture. This tender relates to the procurement of office furniture for the Basque Public Authority for Environmental Management.

Process

Criteria were set in the tender documents, which included both compulsory technical specifications and assessment (or award) criteria. Examples include:

(i) Criteria for boards made of timber and wood by-products (wood particles and fibres)

- Formaldehyde emissions: The lowest possible quantity of formaldehyde is required (as per Spanish norm NTP 466 that established a limit on the quantity of formaldehyde).

- The use of dangerous substances should be avoided

- Origin of the timber used has to be indicated,

(ii) Criteria for Steel sheets

- Metal parts will be easily dismantled at the end of the products' life-cycle in order to be recycled.

- The inclusion of recycled (second fusion) metals will be preferred.

(iii) Criteria for Upholstery

No specific environmental criteria were required, but the offers received that are using environmental criteria (e.g. a specific eco-certification) will be positively assessed and receive a higher score.

(iv) Criteria for Foam rubber

- No specific environmental criteria were required, but the offers received that are using environmental criteria (e.g. a specific eco-certification) will be positively assessed and receive a higher score.

(v) Criteria for Plastic

- Products containing previously recycled plastic will be preferred.

Other criteria included packaging, durability, recycling potential, health and safety etc.

Results

Four companies submitted valid bids for the tender, i.e. fulfilling all the compulsory requirements (technical specifications) of the tender documents. Only one company provided adequate documents that addressed most aspects. As such, the number of points scored was low. This showed a lack of knowledge from the side of companies bidding for the contract. The least expensive offer, in terms of financial cost, was awarded the contract. This was also the offer that obtained the highest environmental point score.

Lessons Learned

When developing the tender, IHOBE had technical experts in its team working on eco-design activities. This greatly assisted the tender preparation process and the assessment of the bids received. Bidders generally provided information on the possession of an EMS for the respective companies and product manufacturers. Usually, supplier companies do not have an EMS, although manufacturers do with ISO 14001, EMAS or Ekoscan (EMS from the Basque Country). This was reflected in

their awareness of environmental issues. It has been shown here that environmental products may not be more expensive (as in this case the green offer was also the cheapest one),

Future Plans

The tender documents that were used in this case have been made available as reference documents for other Basque public administrations. This information will also be spread to working groups, in workshops and through the IHOBE GPP website.

(ICLEI, 2008a)

Chapter 5: Discussion of Results

5.1 Tools 1 and 2: Results of Questionnaires

For the purposes of discussion, the results of the questionnaires in Tools 1 and 2 are divided into two main areas;

- Culture and Perceptions of Green Procurement,
- Use of Green Criteria


It should be noted that the results discussed are considered by the writer to be qualitative only, particularly in relation to “Other Public Bodies” and “Public Body Suppliers” as the sample size is small relative to the number of existing Public Bodies.

5.1.1 Culture and Perceptions of Green Procurement

Policies and Drivers

A number of questions were asked in the questionnaires to determine the awareness level of Public Bodies in relation to GPP. Less than half of both Local Authority and other Public Body respondents indicated that they had knowledge of the European Commission Communication, "Public procurement for a better environment" COM(2008)400/2 (Table 2). Less than a quarter of Public Body Suppliers confirmed that they had knowledge of it. Many respondents indicated that they had heard of the Communication but knew little about it. This raises obvious questions in relation to the publication and circulation of this document where staff are still not aware of the requirements of the communication. There would appear to be inconsistencies in the weighting attributed to this document across Public Bodies in Ireland.

The existence of a policy on Green Procurement should indicate a commitment at corporate level within a Public Body. 38% of Local Authority respondents and 17% of respondents from Other Public Bodies confirmed that such a policy exists (Figure 1). This indicates that the development of such a policy is not a high priority in the public



sector and thus indicating a lack of corporate commitment. 86% of Public Body Suppliers questioned indicated that such a policy exists in their organisations. These results are a significant improvement on the results of a survey undertaken in 2005 by ICLEI (ICLEI, 2005), where almost 100% of Irish public administrations did not have a green procurement policy in place. To identify the drivers behind the development of such a policy, recipients were asked if their organisation had a “Green Team” or an Environmental Management System. Green Teams are generally a working group within an organisation, set up to further environmental policies and practices and have representatives from each section of the organisation. Of the ten organisations where policy documents exist, five had Green Teams and five didn’t, showing that these did not appear to be a significant driver for GPP. The existence of an Environmental Management System showed similar results where only three of the seven EMSs identified included GPP. Again the majority of Public Body Suppliers claimed to include GPP in their Environmental Management Systems (83%). Recipients were also asked how centralized their organizations purchasing was on a scale of 1 to 5 (where 5 is fully centralized). The results were diverse in the Local Authority sector, with results evenly spread from 1 to 4. Other Public Bodies were also diverse but five of the twelve respondents placed their procurement at level 4 making procurement more centralised than Local Authorities. Public Body Suppliers ranged Public Body purchasing from 1 to 5 on the same scale. These results highlight the diversity of procurement structures within the Public Sector and thus any implementation of a national strategy on green procurement will require either a very diverse methodology to cover all sectors within the public sector or a radical change in public sector procurement structure. As a general question, the recipients were asked how they perceive the level of coordination between government departments. In both the Public Bodies and Public Body Suppliers the results indicated that the level of coordination was poor to fair.

Recipients were asked if in general they felt that GPP was driven by individuals within the organisation rather than corporate policy. The responses were evenly split between yes and no for Local Authorities while 58% of Other Public Bodies consider procurement to be corporate policy driven (Figures 2 and 3). This highlights the

diversity within the current procurement strategies. In general, it would appear that the results of the questionnaire have shown a lack of awareness within the Public Sector of the European Commission Communication and that in general, GPP is not a priority at corporate level. The drivers behind existing GPP policies are unclear and particularly in Local Authorities, GPP policies are being promoted by individuals within these organisations. The diverse nature of the procurement structure compounds the difficulties that may be encountered in implementing a national strategy.

Perceptions

Recipients were asked a number of questions to determine how they perceive the impact of GPP including financial, environmental and social impacts (Figure 4). Both Public Bodies and Public Body Suppliers believe that GPP sometimes or often results in a financial benefit for government and both believe that GPP provides a good example to the private sector. The results show a perception that GPP can “sometimes” provide best value for money. This is a positive result where “Value for Money” is a key financial indicator for public spending. Recipients also believed that GPP could have a positive impact on the development of new markets and product innovation while they were not as positive about benefits to employment and other social benefits. In general the results indicate that GPP is perceived as having a positive impact on the environment and enterprise, with the majority of responses indicating that GPP sometimes, often or always has significant environmental benefits.

Obstacles to GPP

To develop the perceptions of GPP further the recipients were asked to identify what they consider to be obstacles to the development of GPP in their organisation. As presented in Table 3, the primary obstacles to GPP identified were:

- Lack of management support,
- lack of knowledge,
- lack of training,

- the perception that green products are more expensive and
- the perception that green products are not available.

The identification of the lack of management support as a barrier is consistent with the aforementioned lack of a corporate policy on GPP. This barrier is more significant in Local Authorities than elsewhere and at 64% of respondents, is significantly higher than that of the EU Green-7 (32%).

A lack of training would again indicate a failure at corporate level to give GPP the support required. Local Authorities have indicated that the majority of these obstacles are more significant for them than Other Public Bodies, Public Body Suppliers and the EU Green-7. In general the obstacles identified by Other Public Bodies are consistent with that of the EU Green-7 and with Public Body Suppliers. Public Body Suppliers do not see a lack of training as a significant barrier.

Recipients were asked to identify options for the development of GPP in their organisation. As presented in Table 4, the primary request was for training workshops, while access to written information or an online database and an exchange of current practices were also identified. It should be noted that on average 60% of recipients from Public Bodies indicated the need for training. The absence of corporate policies, and the obstacles identified above are indicative of a lack of corporate commitment to GPP.

5.1.2 The use of Green Criteria

When tendering for goods and services or when undertaking routine purchasing, the purchaser sets criteria in order to evaluate and compare the product or service in question. Recipients of the questionnaires were asked a number of questions to assess the use of green criteria and the nature of green criteria used. As a general question, recipients were asked if green criteria were taken into account in their respective organisations (refer to Table 5). 80% of Local Authorities, 83% of the Other Public Body respondents and 93% of Public Body Suppliers said that they did. At face value it would appear that the use of green criteria is prevalent in both Public Bodies and Public Body Suppliers and the results presented are more positive than a

similar survey undertaken by ICLEI in 2003 where only 5% of Irish public administrations included environmental criteria in more than 50% of their purchases (ICLEI, 2003).

Categories to which green criteria are applied

The recipients were then asked to indicate where they apply green criteria from a specific list of commercial categories. The categories specified were those given as priority sectors in the EU communication “Public procurement for a better environment” (COM (2008)400/2). The results are presented in Table 6, (Local Authorities) and Table 7, (Other Public Bodies) and are compared with the results of the EU Take-5 study. As can be seen from the table, Local Authorities in general are poor in their use of green criteria except where 27% of respondents claim to “always” use green criteria for the energy and paper and printing categories.

In the case of energy it is likely that this is a direct result of the engagement of Energy Agencies by Local Authorities. These agencies are private companies, funded by the Local Authorities to provide advice, guidance and undertake project work to assist in the purchasing and use of energy. This result is quite positive in comparison with the European average of 25% as determined in the Take-5 report. Respondents also stated that 50% of them use green energy criteria “often” or “sometimes”. This is a vast improvement on the EU average of 14%.

In the case of paper and printing services, green criteria are often set when purchasing paper such as the recycled paper content, sourced from sustainable forests etc. The Local Authority figure of 27% for those who “always” use green criteria for purchasing paper could be considered as being quite low (EU Take-5 was 36%), considering the wide availability of high quality green paper alternatives. However as with energy, the use of green criteria either often or sometimes is positive (46%) in comparison with the EU average (16%).

The use of green criteria in “equipment used in the health sector” is very low (0%). This is primarily due to this type of equipment not being used in most of the Irish Public Bodies surveyed and will not be considered any further in this study.

There is a trend evident in the results given for all the categories listed. The use of green criteria either “often” or “sometimes”, is prevalent and may be an additional indicator of a lack of corporate support or policy on green procurement and the inclusion of green criteria as was discussed previously.

The consistent use of green criteria i.e. always, is poor in comparison to the EU average in relation to construction, transport, clothing, furniture and cleaning services. Construction will continue to be a difficult challenge due to the wide variety of projects, products and services involved. This was possibly a difficult question for respondents to answer as it would be very difficult to confirm that green criteria are always used in all construction projects. To enable the future measurement and monitoring of green procurement within this sector, sub-categories will be required e.g. housing, roads, etc. The procurement of transport and transport services, clothing, furniture and cleaning services are generally for specific items and the integration of green criteria should be relatively easy in comparison to that of the construction sector.

The Other Public Bodies surveyed report more positive results with 50% stating they use green criteria for paper and printing services and 42% use them for construction and office machinery and computers. All results in the “always” category indicate that in general the use of green criteria is more common in Other Public Bodies than in Local Authorities.

Similar to that of Local Authorities, the use of green criteria either sometimes or often is greater than that of the EU average but again indicates a requirement for a consistent corporate policy. In all the Public Bodies surveyed (including Local Authorities) and in the EU Take-5 study, there was a high percentage across most categories that reported that they didn’t know if green criteria were used or stated that green criteria were never used. This is indicative of a requirement for awareness raising, training and corporate policy development.

Type of Green Criteria Applied

The recipients were asked to select from a list of green criteria which they apply when procuring goods or services (refer to Table 8). In general the reporting of the use of specific criteria was higher in Other Public Bodies than Local Authorities and Public Body Suppliers. The “use of recycled material” was the most commonly used criteria by 46% of Local Authorities, 83% of Other Public Bodies and 71% of Public Body Suppliers. It is likely that this relates mainly to the procurement of paper products which also scored highly in the previous section of the questionnaire. “Increased use of renewable resources” scored relatively highly which correlates with the use of green criteria in the procurement of energy (discussed previously). Other criteria such as the “use of products with reduced energy use over life time” and “design for re-use, dismantling and recycling”, “reduced packaging” and “reduced content of toxic/harmful chemicals” all scored relatively highly across all sectors.

The “ecologically grown products” criteria yielded the lowest response. This may indicate a lack of knowledge on the part of the respondents as these criteria can be used in the procurement of paper products but this result also correlates with the low response rate for the use of green criteria in the food and catering sector. The use of criteria which are set by an eco-label are used much more frequently in Other Public Bodies than Local Authorities or Public Body Suppliers. As recipients were not asked why they choose their specific criteria, it is unclear as to why these criteria are not used more frequently. It may be the case that eco-labels do not exist for many of the products being purchased. Recipients were asked if they use the ability of the supplier to supply Life Cycle Analysis data as a criterion or if they require the supplier to have an EMS in place. The responses were mainly in the “sometimes” and “don’t know” categories with a requirement for an EMS featuring strongly in the “never” category” (Table 9). This again is an indicator that there is a lack of knowledge and strategy when setting criteria as these two criteria can give a good indication of a suppliers “green” credentials. When asked if criteria are set to assist compliance with legislation under their own remit e.g. licensing and registrations, only 47% of Local Authorities stated that they did while 83% of Other Public Bodies said they included

these criteria (refer to Table 11). This is an area if developed could see immediate benefits for these Local Authorities where the use of such criteria in tenders would be an incentive for environmental compliance.

The recipients were asked where they source their information when setting green criteria. The use of the internet, national guidelines and internal expertise were the most common sources (Table 10). The national guidelines are probably external to Ireland as the research undertaken here has not revealed any significant national guidelines for Ireland. As above, eco-labels were not used in Local Authorities as much as in Other Public Bodies. Other Public Bodies tend to use external consultancies for advice more than Local Authorities and would take advice more from suppliers while Local Authorities appear to reference the “Buy it Green” handbook more frequently. Only 15-17% of Public Bodies have used courses or seminars as an aid in generating criteria. It is possible that courses in this area are not yet commonly available due to the contemporary status of green procurement in Ireland.

5.2 Tool 3: Current Use of Green Criteria in Tender Documents

5.2.1 Introduction

A total of forty-four tender documents were analysed under the Tool 3 methodology. These included fifteen Local Authority tenders and twenty-nine tenders from Other Public Bodies (Table 12). The number of tenders available was limited to relevant tenders published on the e-tenders website between January and March 2009. The results of the tenders analysed showed that around half of the tenders published during this period did not have any green criteria or specifications included (Figures 2 to 8). Approximately 18% of the documents analysed showed some indication of green criteria, 27% had between one and three significant green criteria in their tenders and only 2% had greater than three criteria. The results were then divided into seven categories to enable comparison with the Take-5 report. Energy supply was also included as a category however there was no corresponding Take-5 category for comparison. This category was included for discussion as energy supply

will be a key category in the development of green procurement going forward i.e. with the use of renewable energy sources.

5.2.2 Results by Sector


Construction Sector

Twelve tenders in total were analysed, seven Local Authority and five from Other Public Bodies. The subjects of the tenders varied from a housing development to landfill remediation, and from the supply of construction materials to flood relief works. Examples of the criteria identified included “the inclusion of solar panel water heating system and enhanced insulation standards, individual Air to Water heat pumps” and “Dimming shall be operated by a photoelectric cell”. Of the five tenders from Other Public Bodies, no green criteria were found (Figure 5). This may raise concerns where green products are probably more prevalent in the construction sector than most other sectors e.g. eco cement, energy efficient building design, energy efficient windows, renewable energy heating systems etc. The results from the Local Authority tender documents showed to be more in line with European norms as found in the Take-5 report. However, no dark green criteria were found which is poor in comparison to the European norm of 13% and shows that significant improvements are required to reach the Green-7 target of 23%.

In comparison with the perception of the use of such criteria as presented in the results of Tool1 (Table 6), 8% of Local Authorities stated that they “always” used green criteria when purchasing and 42% stated that they “sometimes or often” use these criteria. 42% of other public bodies stated that they “always” use green criteria in this category. This perception of the use of green criteria in the construction sector contradicts their actual use in practice.

Food and Catering

A total of six tenders were published in relation to the food and catering sector. Three were from Local Authorities and three from Other Public Bodies. These tenders generally related to the provision of catering or canteen services or the supply of food



products. Examples of the criteria identified were; “Must comply with all environmental policies”, “All electrical appliances shall be isolated at the close of business each day in order to adhere to environmental policies, fire and safety regulations and energy conservation”, “The Caterer must manage the segregation of all catering waste and bring this waste to the recycling / bin area on a daily basis”. “All candidates will be required to provide certification from an independent body attesting conformity to environmental management standards in accordance with the Community Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) or the European standard BS EN ISO 14001”. The combined results for both authority types was approximately in line with the European norms (Figure 6) specifically in relation to the percentage of “light green” criteria which was 33% for both Irish Public Bodies and European norms. The percentage of “dark green” criteria also corresponds closely with European norms where no criteria were identified in this study and is relatively consistent with the Green-7 where “dark green” criteria were found in 5% of tenders. A slight improvement is all that is required in the inclusion of green criteria in food and catering tenders to bring Irish Public Bodies to the same standard as the Green-7.

In comparing these results with the perception of the use of such criteria (Table 6), both Local Authorities and Other Public Bodies appear to have a working knowledge of the criteria being used where 15% of Local Authorities stated that they “always” used green criteria when purchasing and 31% stated that they use green criteria “sometimes or often”. Of Other Public Bodies, 17% stated that they “always” and 33% stated that they “sometimes or often” use green criteria in this category.

Furniture

A total of four tenders were published in relation to the furniture sector. One was from a Local Authority and three from Other Public Bodies. These tenders generally related to the provision of loose furniture, library furniture and laboratory furniture. Examples of the criteria identified were “Allow for keeping the site clear of all rubbish, packaging and debris by the removal of rubbish on a daily basis. All packaging, waste material, etc., must be disposed of in accordance with current legislation” “In

choosing packaging, the Supplier shall take into consideration environmental concerns”.

The combined results for Public Bodies indicated that the number of criteria in Irish Public Body tenders is less than that of the European norm and significantly, there were no light or dark green criteria identified (Figure 7). With a 21% average for the Green-7, it is apparent that a significant improvement is required to bring these tender documents up to the Green-7 standard.

In comparing these results with the perception of the use of such criteria (Table 6), no Local Authority stated that they “always” used green criteria when purchasing and 42% stated that they “sometimes or often” use these criteria. 25% of other public bodies stated that they “always” use green criteria in this category. This perception of the use of green criteria in the food and catering sector compares well with their actual use in practice.

Cleaning Services

A total of six tenders were published in relation to Cleaning Services. One was from a Local Authority and five from Other Public Bodies. These tenders generally related to cleaning, laundry services and janitorial works. Examples of the criteria identified were; “It shall be a condition of this contract that all waste be disposed of in accordance with the Waste Management Act 1996 and prevailing EU Regulations” “The Hospital is keen to work with companies who have policies in place to manage their environmental impact. Please provide such policies and/or procedures in place when providing your tender documentation”. The Local Authority tender analysed had no green criteria included. The results for other Public Body tenders are less than that of the European norm but not significantly. Neither group included dark green criteria and there were no dark green criteria identified for the Green-7 (Figure 8). While the European norm shows a greater inclusion of light green criteria it is apparent that Irish Public Bodies have a reasonably similar approach.

In comparing these results with the information gathered in Tool1 (Table 6), Local Authorities do not appear to have a working knowledge of the amount criteria being used where 8% of Local Authorities stated that they “always” used green criteria when purchasing and 58% stated that they use green criteria “sometimes or often”.

Of Other Public Bodies, 25% stated that they “always” and 25% stated that they “sometimes or often” use green criteria in this category.

Printing and Paper

A total of eight tenders were published in relation to Printing and Paper. One was from a Local Authority and seven from Other Public Bodies. These tenders generally related to either the supply of paper or printing tenders. Examples of the criteria identified were; “Energy efficiency and conservation” “All devices must provide duplex printing that is “enabled by default” “All suppliers to the Local Authority of electrical and electronic equipment must comply with the WEEE regulations and be registered for same” “It shall be a condition of this contract that the successful tenderer will comply with the Waste Management Act 1996 and prevailing EU Regulations”; “It shall be a condition of this tender that the tenderer will ensure that the service provided will comply with the Litter Pollution Act, 1997 as it pertains to the duty” “It is expected that all paper grades will be PEFC or FSC certified, or equivalent”. The Local Authority tender analysed had greater than three “dark green” criteria included (Figure 9). This was the only such tender document identified in this survey; however this single tender document can obviously not be used as an indicator of any great significance. The combined results for both Public Bodies are quite similar to that of the European norm, where the Green -7 in this case sets a high standard of 40%. It is likely that GPP strategies can be readily achieved in this category through the use of green criteria by Public Bodies when purchasing paper. In comparison with the perception of the use of such criteria as presented in the results of Tool 1 (Table 6) and in light of the fact that the Local Authority tender data is based on a single tender it cannot be ascertained if Local Authorities have a working knowledge of the amount criteria being used where 27% of Local Authorities stated that they “always” used green criteria when purchasing and 46% stated that they use green criteria “sometimes or often”. Of Other Public Bodies, 50% stated that they “always” and 25% stated that they “sometimes or often” use green criteria in this category. In light of the fact that seven tender documents were analysed for Other Public Bodies in this sector, the existing perception of the use of green criteria appears to contradict their actual use in practice.

Office Equipment

A total of five tenders were published in relation to Office Equipment. All five tenders were from Other Public Bodies. These tenders generally related to the supply of telecommunications equipment and vending machines. Examples of the criteria identified were; “Tenderers must remove all packaging material after installation” “Environmental Factors including Power Consumption, Heat Output and Space requirements, “All equipment and products should be both environmentally friendly, and biodegradable where possible”; “All Electronic Equipment must be sourced from a supplier compliant under the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations” “All Electronic Equipment purchased must comply with the highest environmental efficiency standards, e.g. Energy Star”; “All materials used in the design, construction, and assembly of exhibitions must be sourced from a recycled or renewable source”; “The end of life disposal of all exhibition materials must be carried out in accordance with best environmental practice in each waste category”.

60 % of the tenders analysed had no green criteria and 40% had between one and three light green criteria (Figure 10). These results are consistent with that of the European norm except where 10% dark green criteria were identified for Irish Public Body tenders with the Green -7 standard being 20%.

In comparison with the perception of the use of such criteria as presented in the results of Tool 1 (Table 6), no Local Authority tender documents were found for this category. Of Other Public Bodies, 42% stated that they “always” and 42% stated that they “sometimes or often” use green criteria in this category. This perception of the use of green criteria in the office equipment sector compares well with their actual use in practice.

Energy Supply

A total of three tenders were published in relation to Energy Supply. Two tenders were from Local Authorities and one from another Public Body. These tenders related to the supply of electricity, fuels and energy management services. The criteria identified were; “Power may come from any source for the Bundle including:

“Green” supply, CHP, “Brown” supply, Interconnector”, “the installation of new energy efficient technology by the successful candidates”, “supply of petrol, diesel and E85 bio-ethanol through a fuel card system”.

All three of the tenders analysed had light green criteria (Figure 11). Energy Supply was not a category previously analysed in the Take-5 report. It was investigated here to determine the use of green criteria in the energy sector where there have been significant developments in technology and awareness over the last number of years. These results indicate that there is definitely an awareness of GPP in the procurement of energy.

In comparison with the perception of the use of such criteria as presented in the results of Tool 1 (Table 6), 27% of Local Authorities stated that they “always” used green criteria when purchasing and 50% stated that they use green criteria “sometimes or often”. Of Other Public Bodies, 25% stated that they “always” and 42% stated that they “sometimes or often” use green criteria in this category. This perception of the use of green criteria in the energy sector compares well with their actual use in practice. Again this is probably due to the engagement of Energy Agencies by Local Authorities.

5.3 Tool 4: The assessment of Local Authority Corporate Procurement Plans for Green Procurement Strategies or Policies.

5.3.1 Introduction:

As outlined in the methodology section, twenty-five Local Authority Procurement Plans were examined for corporate policies on GPP. Of these plans, sixteen have made some reference to Green Procurement. Of the sixteen, seven were strong references and nine were weak.

5.3.2 Strong References

The seven plans which made a strong reference to Green Procurement do so by dedicating a specific section of the plan to Green Procurement. While these strong references to GPP do exist they do not however indicate that there is a commitment

to GPP within those Local Authorities. Only one plan of the seven states that environmental criteria will be used in their tender documents. This may again indicate that in general, there is a poor commitment to GPP in Local Authorities and even the inclusion of GPP in the corporate procurement plan may not result in its development within a Local Authority. Four of the seven make recommendations that a specific GPP policy should be generated. The author is of the opinion that this would dilute the significance of a GPP policy where in general such additional policies may not be given the same priority as the corporate plan. Two of the strong references simply quote the benefits of GPP which again indicates a poor commitment to GPP as no actual policy to include GPP in procurement practices exists.

5.3.3 Weak References

The remaining nine plans make a weak reference to Green Procurement. These are policies on the management of specific areas such as energy costs, waste recycling or the use of recycled paper. Such policies may achieve improvements within those specific areas but are unlikely to alter the culture and commitment level to GPP within an organisation.

Overall it appears that while there is evidence of some corporate support for GPP (64% of the plans examined showed some reference to GPP), there does not appear to be any commitment to its implementation. At a national level, it is unlikely that these Local Authority Corporate Procurement Plans will contribute to the development of GPP, at least in their current form. It is evident that GPP is not as of yet an integral part of public procurement policy in Local Authorities. This may be partly explained by the fact that the EU Commission Communication of GPP only arrived in 2008 when many of these plans were either complete or almost complete. Additionally, no national strategy or Ministerial Direction has been received to date by Local Authorities to draft or implement GPP policies.

5.4 Tool 5: A Review of a selection of Green Procurement Case Studies

Two case studies were selected to illustrate the developments of green procurement within their respective organisations; Barcelona City Council and the London Fire Brigade. Both cases have achieved exceptional results in the development of green procurement. This can be attributed somewhat to the incorporation of green procurement into their respective management systems. Barcelona City Council have been developing a “Green Office Programme” since 2000 which involves eco-audits, awareness raising, training and the development of policies while the London Fire Brigade have incorporated green procurement into their ISO 14001 EMS. Both organisations consider these systems as key components of a successful Green Procurement Programme. Within the systems, there is a requirement for corporate support, provision of training, monitoring and reviewing of results and the development of policy and corporate strategies. It has also been noted that due to the systems in place, external suppliers are becoming more conscious of the organisation's new policies. The external drivers for the development of these programmes appear to be both legislative and government policy driven. The Barcelona case study is driven by both voluntary participation in various EU studies and compliance with a government measure requiring the use of environmental criteria when tendering. The London Fire Brigade's work appears to be driven to some degree by the Mayor of London's Environmental Code. It would appear that some external driver is required to instigate the Green Procurement Process. It should also be noted that both parties engaged the assistance of external advisors for the development of their green procurement systems and tender criteria.

Four Case Studies were selected to represent the development of green procurement in specific commercial sectors. The cases examined have engaged in the use of green criteria in the procurement of their respective goods and services and have had varying degrees of success in achieving cost savings and/or reducing the environmental footprint of their organisations. All four cases had environmental or green procurement policies in place to some degree prior to these particular projects commencing. The processes followed in the case studies were similar as would be

expected where common public procurement practice is being followed but little detail was given on the actual criteria and weighting used in the tendering process. The Biofuels case study in Cork City Council was a research project rather than a tender process.

The results achieved in the case studies were in the main positive where the re-use of asphalt arisings saved Staffordshire County Council in the region of £16,000 for the project and the IHOBE furniture procurement case study also demonstrated that green furniture products need not be more expensive than conventional products. The environmental and carbon footprint of the USEPA Lakeside café, and the Bio-diesel use by Cork City Council will be greatly enhanced by the measures taken, not to mention the impact on their public “green” image. The management of the Lakeside café have stated that the employee exposure to the café’s environmental programme far outweighs the costs incurred by the project. The requirement for a formal management system was a common issue that arose in the case studies and was strongly advocated. This management system should include; adequate training for all parties involved, commitment from all stakeholders to the aims of the project, continuous monitoring of the criteria set and absolute clarity in the criteria set.

Chapter 6: Conclusions

6.1 Introduction

The two main themes running through this dissertation are the investigation of the culture of green procurement and the use of green criteria within Irish Public Bodies, specifically Local Authorities. The literature review revealed significant work undertaken to date at International and European level but little at National level. Legislative measures are active in some European Member States, extensive studies have been undertaken and guidelines are limited, but under development. The methodology used has provided opinions from parties engaged in GPP, an insight into corporate policy and evidence of the current use of green criteria within actual tender documents. The case studies presented provide some examples of green procurement in practice and reveal many lessons already learned by practitioners.

6.2 Key Findings and Recommendations

GPP in Irish Public Bodies has been found to be in its infancy in comparison to other European Member States. The culture of green procurement is very inconsistent across the Public Bodies surveyed and distinctively inconsistent across the Local Authorities surveyed. While the opinion of GPP is positive with many benefits being cited, the lack of legislation and national policy in the area of GPP in Ireland is a significant barrier to its implementation. Any developments in GPP appear to be on an ad-hoc basis and without formal policy or structure. The lack of corporate policies on GPP and the absence of commitments to GPP in the Local Authority Corporate Procurement Plans is evidence that the issue is not yet a priority. At a national level, it is unlikely that these Local Authority Corporate Procurement Plans will contribute to the development of GPP, at least in their current form.

In general, there is an existing knowledge of GPP among staff in specific areas such as the procurement of energy and paper but mainly within a de-centralised procurement framework. Specific training and guidance are required to assist in the implementation of GPP. It is unclear why there is such a meagre use of green criteria in tender documents but the “purchase price only” mind set is still prevalent. It is possible that the requirements of the 2008 European Commission Communication “Public procurement for a better environment” have not filtered down as of yet to the relevant staff, resulting in a general lack of awareness of the EU policies on GPP.

The lack of a clear definition for GPP as demonstrated at the beginning of the literature review will cause obvious difficulties in developing research programmes and funding GPP projects. Local Authorities in particular will need to co-ordinate resources to avoid the duplication of work and funding. A clear definition and a consistent approach across Public Bodies will assist the development and monitoring of the progress of GPP in Ireland.

The current use of green criteria in Irish Public Bodies is in general below that of the EU “Green-7”. It is likely that significant resources are going to be required in this area of the coming years. There is a general lack of awareness of the criteria being used in practice, indicating that the use of green criteria is currently not being monitored in tender documents. The case studies examined have engaged in the use of green criteria and have had varying degrees of success in achieving cost savings and/or reducing the environmental footprint of their organisations. All case studies indicated a need for an environmental or green procurement policy or environmental management system to be in place for GPP to succeed.

As stated in the 2008 EC Communication, a review is planned to be undertaken in 2011 of the status of GPP within EU Member States. It is likely that this will follow a similar format to that of the previous European studies. In particular, it is likely that the use of green criteria in tender documents will be used as an indicator. To facilitate the gathering of such information, the use of the current Local Authority

Service Indicator reporting system would be the most obvious approach. Should this be the case, it would be advisable for Local Authorities and Other Public Bodies to commence the development of the necessary measures and systems to enable such information gathering. However due to the diverse nature of the public sector and the current economic stringencies, it is unlikely that significant financial resources can be invested to develop the required policies and strategies and to up-skill staff as would be required.

Specifically, Local Authorities should:

- Take cognisance of the environmental legislation under their own remit when setting tender criteria
- Ensure that GPP is an integral part of a Corporate Procurement Plan. The plan should include a commitment to green procurement and specifically to the product and service categories outlined in the 2008 EC Communication.
- Where existing, ensure that GPP is an integral part of an Environmental Management System.
- Initially introduce criteria for the most financially beneficial green procurement categories and then follow by the cost neutral categories, “the low hanging fruit” e.g. renewable energy, energy saving devices and paper.
- Commence using green criteria in tenders even if they don’t carry significant weighting in the awarding of contracts to allow tendering parties to prepare for the change in policy.

- Use the presence of an Environmental Management System as a key criterion initially in order to develop a “green” culture among Public Body Suppliers.
- Use the presence of green criteria in tender documents as a local service indicator.
- Formalise a forum at national level for the development of guidance documents and criteria
- Provide specific training and support to all engaged in the procurement of goods and services for the development of GPP
- At national level, a strategy on GPP is required to drive policy, set appropriate targets and implement a monitoring regime for the use of green criteria.

6.3 Difficulties Encountered

While undertaking a survey such as the questionnaires issued for the purpose of this study, a high response rate is often a difficulty. In this case, there was a very poor response from Other Public Bodies which does not allow for the quantitative analysis of the information supplied. There also appeared to be a lack of knowledge evident in the results supplied by Local Authority respondents as many answers were in the “don’t know” category. This is probably due to GPP being in its infancy in Ireland and there is a general lack of knowledge, guidance and training of practitioners in this area. The format of corporate procurement plans was also found to be inconsistent across Local Authorities. Where GPP is not addressed within these plans, it is difficult to gauge the level of corporate commitment to GPP. Information on green procurement in Ireland is very rare as was found in the literature review and very few case studies exist that can be drawn on for guidance.

6.4 Further Research

In this study, questionnaire recipients were not asked why they choose one particular green criteria over another e.g. the use of the Eco Label criteria over more specific criteria such as “reduced use of water” or “use of recycled material”. A more detailed examination of green criteria requires further study.

Due to the variety of projects, products and services that fall under criteria for the construction sector, there are difficulties in comparing “like for like” when evaluating the use of green criteria in tender documents. Further research into the development and standardisation of subcategories would be valuable.

Another area that requires further investigation and would be of benefit to Public Bodies is the use of carbon foot-printing as an environmental criterion when tendering. Each Local Authority must prepare an organisational climate change strategy to comply with the requirements of the National Climate Change Strategy (2007-2012). GPP will be a key component of these organisational strategies through the promotion of green procurement in the tendering process.

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Appendices

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Appendix A: Questionnaire for Tool 1

Green Public Procurement in Irish Public Bodies
Leo Duffy

I. Introduction:

As part of my Masters Dissertation titled "Green Public Procurement from a Local Authority Perspective" I am required to gather information on the current state of green procurement in Irish Public Bodies.

This questionnaire aims to establish to what extent environmental considerations are taken into account when Irish Public Bodies are buying goods, services or works.

The questionnaire comprises questions about your organisation's procurement policy and about the use of environmental criteria for specific product groups.

I would greatly appreciate your assistance in gathering this information.

All information given will be treated as confidential.

Green Public Procurement is:

"the approach by which Public Bodies integrate environmental criteria and/or requirements into their procurement process, by seeking outcomes and solutions that have low impact on the environment considering their whole lifecycle, thus encouraging the development and spread of environmental technologies."

Instructions for completion

The questionnaire is to be completed anonymously. All completed questionnaires will be treated as confidential and the source of the information will be protected.

Place a capital "X" in the boxes given, as appropriate

Please complete all sections

It shouldn't take more than a few minutes

Should you require more information about this survey, please contact [Details Removed]

Completed questionnaires should be sent by return email to [Details Removed]

Preferably you should answer this questionnaire for your whole organisation. If this is not possible, please indicate.

Yes, my answers will be for my whole organisation

No, I can only answer for my department/unit

Section 1 - General information

1.1 In which Public Body are you located?

This detail will not be revealed in the final report

1.2 Which section/department of the Public Body are you working in?

This detail will not be revealed in the final report

1.3 What is your position in the public body (purchasing officer/environmental officer/clerical officer/environmental awareness officer etc)?

This detail will not be revealed in the final report

1.4 Are you aware of the European Commission Communication, "Public procurement for a better environment" COM(2008)400/2

Yes

No

Heard of it but don't know much about it

1.5 How centralised is purchasing in your organisation?
(1 = not centralised at all, 5 = fully centralised)

1	2	3	4	5	Don't know

Section 2 - Questions on procurement policy and knowledge of green procurement

2.1 Do you have a policy document in your authority on green purchasing or have you signed up to a green procurement commitment? (e.g. Green procurement action plan, Green procurement policy, Green procurement strategy)

Yes No Don't know

2.2 Does your organisation have an active "Green Team"?

Yes No Don't know

2.3 Has (a part of) your organisation adopted an environmental management system?

Yes No Don't know

2.4 Which environmental management system does your organisation have?

Own developed system

ISO 14001

EMAS

Other (please specify):

2.5 Is green procurement part of your environmental management system?

Yes No Don't know

2.6 When purchasing, are there environmental criteria taken into account in your organisation?

Yes No Don't know

2.7 Would you consider that a move towards green procurement is driven by individual preferences rather than corporate policy?

Yes No Don't know

2.8 Please, evaluate the potential advantages of Green Public Procurement by giving your opinion on the following statements:

1- GPP results in significant environmental benefits

Never Sometimes Often Always Don't know

2- GPP results in financial benefits for the government

Never Sometimes Often Always Don't know

3- GPP provides best value for money

Never Sometimes Often Always Don't know

4- GPP provides an example to private purchasers

Never Sometimes Often Always Don't know

5- GPP creates other benefits, such as:

a- employment:

b- other social benefits:

c- new markets:

d- product innovation:

e- other benefit:



f- other benefit:
g- other benefit:

Section 3 - Obstacles and barriers to GPP

3.1 Which of the following possibilities do you consider as the most important obstacles for your organisation undertaking more Green Procurement? Please tick the three most important options.

Lack of management support (including money and time), strategic focus and organisational policy strongly promoting GPP	
Lack of general political support in the country, county or municipality	
Lack of interest from procurement department/teams	
Lack of knowledge about the environment and how to develop environmental criteria	
Lack of training for public procurement officers	
Lack of practical tools and information (e.g. handbooks, internet-tools)	
Perception that environmentally friendlier products would be more expensive	
Perception that environmentally friendlier products would not be readily available	
Perception that European directives are not clear about taking into account environmental criteria	
Concerns about legality of green public procurement	
Other:	

3.2 Which of the following options might help to start or develop green procurement activities in your organisation? Please feel free to tick more than one and to specify your own.

Access to written information (e.g. manual, procurement guidelines)	
An exchange of current green procurement practices	
Training workshops	
Advice from an external consultant	
Access to an online database of environmental criteria	
Other:	

3.3 How effective is the coordination between government departments in implementing GPP policies?

Poor Fair Good Excellent

4. Environmental criteria in purchases

4.1 To what extent have environmental criteria been taken into account when purchasing the following products and services? Indicate which if any have existing green procurement policies.

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	Don't know	Policy in Place
Construction (materials and service)						
Food and Catering Services						
Transport and transport Services						
Energy						
Office machinery and computers						
Clothing uniforms and other textiles						
Paper and printing services						
Furniture						
Cleaning products and services						
Equipment used in the health sector						

4.2 Which environmental criteria are used in your organisation? (More than one answer possible)

No environmental criteria used	
The criteria set by an eco-label (e.g. EU-flower, Nordic Swan, Blaue Engel, etc.)	
Increased use of renewable resources	
Ecologically grown products	
Reduced packaging	
Environmentally friendlier transport options	
Use of recycled material	
Use of products with reduced energy use over life time	



Reduced use of water	<input type="text"/>
Reduced content of toxic/harmful chemicals	<input type="text"/>
Decrease of polluting emissions	<input type="text"/>
Design for re-use, dismantling and recycling	<input type="text"/>
No hazardous waste over life time	<input type="text"/>
Other (please specify):	<input type="text"/>
Don't know what criteria are used	<input type="text"/>

4.3 If environmental criteria are included in purchasing, where do you get the necessary information needed to formulate the environmental criteria? (More than one answer possible)

Environmental criteria not included in purchasing	<input type="text"/>
Ecolabelling schemes (i.e. EU Ecolabel, Nordic Swan, Blaue Engel, etc.)	<input type="text"/>
Public information available through the internet	<input type="text"/>
Own environmental department/internal environmental expertise	<input type="text"/>
'Buy it Green' Handbook on Green Public Procurement (by EU Commission)	<input type="text"/>
National guidelines	<input type="text"/>
Own organisational guidelines	<input type="text"/>
Producers/suppliers	<input type="text"/>
External expertise (consultancy)	<input type="text"/>
Cooperation with other organisations	<input type="text"/>
Courses/seminars on environmental aspects of procurement	<input type="text"/>
Other (please specify):	<input type="text"/>

4.4 Do you know of any good examples of green procurement in your organisation? If yes then please give details:

4.5 How often are life cycle cost assessments used in the procurement process of your organisation?

Never Sometimes Often Always Don't know

4.6 How often are environmental management systems used as a criterion in procurement?

Never Sometimes Often Always Don't know

4.7 Are suppliers assessed to ensure they are in compliance with legislation within the remit of your organisation prior to their engagement?

Yes No Don't know



Thank you for your time in the completion of this questionnaire.

Now please return to [Details Removed]

Again many thanks

Regards,
Leo Duffy

Appendix B: Questionnaire for Tool 2



Green Public Procurement in Irish Public Bodies

Leo Duffy

1. Introduction:

As part of my Masters Dissertation titled "Green Public Procurement from a Local Authority Perspective" I am required to gather information on the current state of green procurement in suppliers to Irish Public Bodies.

This questionnaire aims to research the extent to which environmental considerations can be/are taken into account by suppliers of goods, services or works to Irish Public Bodies.

The questionnaire comprises questions about your organisation's environmental policy and about the use of environmental criteria in the provision of goods services and works.

I would greatly appreciate your assistance in gathering this information.

All information given will be treated as confidential.

Green Public Procurement is:

"the approach by which Public Bodies integrate environmental criteria and/or requirements into their procurement process, by seeking outcomes and solutions that have low impact on the environment considering their whole lifecycle, thus encouraging the development and spread of environmental technologies."

Instructions for completion

The questionnaire is to be completed anonymously. All completed questionnaires will be treated as confidential and the source of the information will be protected.

Place a capital "X" in the boxes given, as appropriate

Please complete all sections

: shouldn't take more than a few minutes

If you require more information about this survey, please contact [Details Removed]

Completed questionnaires should be sent by return email to [Details Removed]

Preferably you should answer this questionnaire for your whole organisation. If this is not possible, please indicate.

Yes, my answers will be for my whole organisation

No, I can only answer for my department/unit

Section 1 - General information**1.1 Name of Supplier?**

This detail will not be revealed in the final report

1.2 Commercial Sector

This detail will not be revealed in the final report

1.3 What is your position in the Company.

This detail will not be revealed in the final report

1.4 Are you aware of the European Commission Communication, "Public procurement for a better environment" COM(2008)400/2

Yes

No

Heard of it but don't know much about it

1.5 How centralised do you consider purchasing to be in Irish Public Bodies?
 (1 = not centralised at all, 5 = fully centralised)

1	2	3	4	5	Don't know
<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>

Section 2 - Questions on procurement policy and knowledge of green procurement

2.1 Do you have an environmental policy document in your company.

Yes No Don't know

2.3 Has (a part of) your company adopted an environmental management system?

Yes No Don't know

2.4 Which environmental management system does your company have?

Own developed system
 ISO 14001
 EMAS
 Other (please specify):

2.5 Is green procurement part of your environmental management system?

Yes No Don't know

2.6 When purchasing, products or services are environmental criteria taken into account in your organisation?

Yes No Don't know

2.7 When selling your goods or service, are environmental criteria used as a selling tool?

Yes No Don't know

2.8 Have you ever been requested to provide evidence of environmental criteria by a Public Body?

Yes No Don't know

2.9 Please, evaluate the potential advantages of Green Procurement by Public Bodies by giving your opinion on the following statements:

1- GP results in significant environmental benefits

Never Sometimes Often Always Don't know

2- GP results in financial benefits for the government

Never Sometimes Often Always Don't know

3- GP provides best value for money

Never Sometimes Often Always Don't know

4- GP provides an example to private purchasers

Never Sometimes Often Always Don't know



5- GP creates other benefits, such as:

- a- employment:
- b- other social benefits:
- c- new markets:
- d- product innovation:
- e- other benefit:
- f- other benefit:
- g- other benefit:

Section 3 - Obstacles and barriers to Green Procurement

3.1 Which of the following possibilities do you consider as the most important obstacles for your organisation in providing more Green Products and Services? Please tick the three most important options.

- Lack of internal management support (including money and time), strategic focus and organisational policy strongly promoting the green agenda
- Lack of general political support in the country, county or municipality
- Lack of interest from public body procurement department/teams
- Lack of knowledge about the environment and how to develop environmental criteria
- Lack of training
- Lack of practical tools and information (e.g. handbooks, internet-tools)
- Perception that environmentally friendlier products would be more expensive
- Perception that environmentally friendlier products would not be readily available
- Perception that European directives are not clear about taking into account environmental criteria
- Concerns about legality of green public procurement
- Other:

3.2 Which of the following options might help to start or develop green procurement activities in your organisation? Please feel free to tick more than one and to specify your own.

- Access to written information (e.g. manual, procurement guidelines)
- In exchange of current green procurement practices
- Training workshops
- Advice from an external consultant
- Access to an online database of environmental criteria
- Other:

3.3 How effective is the coordination between government departments in implementing GP policies?

Poor Fair Good Excellent

4. Products or Service provided

4.1 Please indicate which of the following products and services your organisation can provide to public bodies:

- Construction (materials and service)
- Food and Catering Services
- Transport and transport Services
- Energy
- Office machinery and computers
- Clothing uniforms and other textiles
- Paper and printing services
- Furniture
- Cleaning products and services
- Equipment used in the health sector

4.2 Which environmental criteria are used in promoting your product/service? (More than one answer possible)

No environmental criteria used	<input type="checkbox"/>
The criteria set by an eco-label (e.g. EU-flower, Nordic Swan, Blaue Engel, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased use of renewable resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ecologically grown products	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduced packaging	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmentally friendlier transport options	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use of recycled material	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use of products with reduced energy use over life time	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduced use of water	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduced content of toxic/harmful chemicals	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decrease of polluting emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Design for re-use, dismantling and recycling	<input type="checkbox"/>
No hazardous waste over life time	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify):	<input type="text"/>
Don't know what criteria are used	<input type="checkbox"/>

4.3 Can you provide details of the life cycle cost assessments for your product of service?

Yes No Don't know

Thank you for your time in the completion of this questionnaire.

Now please return to [Details Removed]

gain many thanks

egards,
eo Duffy



Appendix C: Results of Tool 1 (Local Authorities)

1. General Info						2. GPP Policy					
Local Authority	Replied	Answering for Whole org/Sect	Awareness of COM 2008 400/02	How Centralised is procurement	Policy Doc in place	Green Team in place	EMS in place	Type of EMS	GPP included in EMS	Use Env Criteria when purchasing	GPP driven by Individuals rather than corporate
Local Authority 1	No										
Local Authority 2	No										
Local Authority 3	Yes	Whole Org	Heard of it only		2	Yes	Yes	Don't Know		Yes	Don't know
Local Authority 4	No										
Local Authority 5	Yes	Don't Know	Yes		4	Yes	No	No		Yes	No
Local Authority 6	Yes	Don't Know	No		3	Don't know	No	No		Yes	Yes
Local Authority 7	Yes	Whole Org	No		1	Yes	Yes	Don't Know	Don't know	Yes	Yes
Local Authority 8	Yes	Whole Org	Heard of it only		3	Yes	No	No		Yes	Yes
Local Authority 9	No										
Local Authority 10	Yes	Whole Org	Yes		4	Yes	No	Don't Know		Yes	No
Local Authority 11	Yes	Whole Org	Yes		1	Yes	Yes	Don't Know	Yes	Yes	Yes
Local Authority 12	Yes	Whole Org	Yes		2	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Local Authority 13	Yes	Don't Know	Yes	Don't Know	Don't Know	Don't Know	Yes	Other - RMCEI current activity in house to dev a climate change strategy and energy plan which will incorporate the main elements of an ems		Don't know	Don't Know
Local Authority 14	Yes	Department Only	Heard of it only	Don't Know	No	No	No		No	Yes	Yes
Local Authority 15	Yes	Department Only	Yes		4	Yes	Yes	No		Yes	No
Local Authority 16	Yes	Don't Know	Heard of it only		1	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Local Authority 17	No										
Local Authority 18	Yes	Whole Org	Heard of it only		3	No	Yes	No		Yes	Both
Local Authority 19	Yes	Whole Org	Yes		2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Own System	Yes	No
Local Authority 20	Yes	Don't Know	No		1	No	No	Don't know		Don't know	Don't know
Local Authority 21	Yes	Whole Org	Yes		2	No	No	No		Yes	No
Local Authority 22	No										
Local Authority 23	No										
Local Authority 24	Yes	Don't Know	No		3	No	Yes	No		No	No
Local Authority 25	Yes	Department Only	No		4	Don't know	Yes	Yes	Own System	Don't know	No
Local Authority 26	No										
Local Authority 27	Yes	Department Only	Heard of it only		2	Don't know	No	No		Yes	Yes
Local Authority 28	Yes	Department Only	No		3	Yes	No	No		Yes	Yes
Local Authority 29	Yes	Department Only	No		3	No	No	Yes	ISO 14001 and Emas	Yes	Yes
Local Authority 30	Yes	Department Only	Heard of it only		3	No	No	No		Yes	No
Local Authority 31	Yes	Department Only	No		1	No	No	Yes	EMAS	No	Don't know
Local Authority 32	Yes	Whole Org	Yes		4	No	No	Yes	EMS started waste recycling, energy efficiency	No	No
Local Authority 33	Yes	Whole Org	Yes		2	No	No	Don't Know	Don't know	Yes	Yes
Local Authority 34	yes	Department Only	No		1	No	Yes	No		Yes	Yes

3. Perception of benefits												
Local Authority	GPP = sig env benefits	GPP=financial benefits for Gov	GPP = best value for money	Good example to private sector	Other Benefits - Employment	Other Benefits - Social	Other Benefits - New Markets	Other Benefits - Product Innovation	Other Benefits	Other Benefits	Other Benefits	
Local Authority 1												
Local Authority 2												
Local Authority 3	Often	Sometimes	Often	Often	X	X	X	X				
Local Authority 4												
Local Authority 5	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	X			X				
Local Authority 6	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Always	X	X	X	X				
Local Authority 7	Sometimes	Never	Never	Often	X	X	X	X				
Local Authority 8	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often			X	X				
Local Authority 9												
Local Authority 10	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often			X	X				
Local Authority 11	Sometimes	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes				X				
Local Authority 12	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	X	X	X	X				
Local Authority 13	Don't Know	Don't Know	Don't Know	Don't Know								
Local Authority 14	Always	Sometimes	Sometimes	Always		X	X	X				
Local Authority 15	Often	Often	Often	Often	X	X	X	X				
Local Authority 16	Sometimes	Never	Often	Sometimes		X	X	X	reduced environmental impact	long-term stability	creates broader awareness	
Local Authority 17												
Local Authority 18	Always	Don't know	Often	Always			X	X	less waste - better for environment	more efficient purchasing	get more value for money	
Local Authority 19	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	X	X	X	X				
Local Authority 20	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes								
Local Authority 21	Always	Often	Sometimes	Often	X	X	X	X	Cleaner environment	Greater competitiveness & value for Money		
Local Authority 22												
Local Authority 23												
Local Authority 24	Always	Sometimes	Sometimes	Always	X		X					
Local Authority 25	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	X	X	X	X				
Local Authority 26												
Local Authority 27	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Always	X				Environmental Awareness	Closing the Loop		
Local Authority 28	Always	Often	Often	Always	X	X	X	X				
Local Authority 29	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	X	X	X	X				
Local Authority 30	Always	Don't Know	Don't Know	Always			X	X				
Local Authority 31	Always	Often	Sometimes	Often	X	X		X				
Local Authority 32	Often	Often	Often	Often	X		X	X				
Local Authority 33	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes		X	X	X				
Local Authority 34	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often				X	Good experience with GPP may extend to other areas like waste production			

4. Barriers

Local Authority	Barrier - lack of management support	Barrier - lack of political support	Barrier - Lack of interest	Barrier - Lack of knowledge	Barrier - Lack of training	Barrier - Lack of tools and information	Barrier - perception that products are more expensive	Barrier - perception that products are not available	Barrier - Perception that EU directives are not clear	Barrier - Concerns about legality	Barrier - Other
Local Authority 1											
Local Authority 2											
Local Authority 3	X			X				X			
Local Authority 4				X							
Local Authority 5				X						X	
Local Authority 6	X						X	X			
Local Authority 7				X	X		X				
Local Authority 8	X			X	X						
Local Authority 9											
Local Authority 10				X			X	X			
Local Authority 11	X			X			X				
Local Authority 12		X					X	X			
Local Authority 13											
Local Authority 14	X		X	X	X		X			X	legality issue has arisen in the past
Local Authority 15	X						X	X			
Local Authority 16		X					X			X	Deviation from lowest cost very difficult despite more recent criterion of "best value"
Local Authority 17											
Local Authority 18	X		X				X				missing link between environment/ green team and procurement team
Local Authority 19				X		X		X			
Local Authority 20			X								When the arse fell out of the commodities market does this not prove green is for "profit" only
Local Authority 21				X	X		X				
Local Authority 22											
Local Authority 23											
Local Authority 24	X				X	X					
Local Authority 25	X			X				X			
Local Authority 26											
Local Authority 27	X				X			X			Concerns that environmentally friendly products are inferior
Local Authority 28	X				X		X				
Local Authority 29	X						X	X			
Local Authority 30	X		X				X				
Local Authority 31	X				X				X		
Local Authority 32	X	X									
Local Authority 33	X		X				X				
Local Authority 34	X		X		X						



5. Options to Develop Green Procurement

Local Authority	Access to info	Exchange of knowledge	Training	Consultant advice	Access to online database	Other	GPP coord between gov depts
Local Authority 1							
Local Authority 2							
Local Authority 3	X	X		X			Fair
Local Authority 4							
Local Authority 5			X		X		Good
Local Authority 6	X	X			X		Poor
Local Authority 7	X	X	X		X		Poor
Local Authority 8			X	X	X	Awareness raising	
Local Authority 9							
Local Authority 10		X	X				Poor
Local Authority 11	X	X					Poor
Local Authority 12				X	X		Poor
Local Authority 13							
Local Authority 14			X	X		Please note we are meant to be getting a consultant to work with finance in summer 2009 to develop a green procurement strategy	Poor
Local Authority 15		X	X		X		Fair
Authority 16	X	X			X	Clarification regarding DoELGH view of Green Procurement	Fair
Authority 17							
Authority 18	X		X			clear direction/policy from DEHLG, not just guidelines & advice	Fair
Authority 19	X		X		X		Good
Authority 20		X					Poor
Authority 21		X	X		X		Poor
Authority 22							
Authority 23							
Authority 24	X	X	X		X		Fair
Authority 25	X	X			X		Fair
Authority 26							
Authority 27	X				X		Poor
Authority 28	X		X				Poor
Authority 29		X	X	X			Fair
Local Authority 30		X	X				Poor
Local Authority 31	X		X				Poor
Local Authority 32						Financial	Poor
Local Authority 33	X	X	X		X	Evidence of precedents where GPP has proven beneficial to the org and the org's objectives	Poor
Local Authority 34	X		X			Some knowledge of real cost / benefit of GPP vs existing practices	Poor

6. Criteria used per sector

Local Authority	Construction (materials and service)	Food and Catering Services	Transport and transport Services	Energy	Office machinery and computers	Clothing uniforms and other textiles	Paper and printing services	Furniture	Cleaning products and services	Equipment used in the health sector
Local Authority 1										
Local Authority 2										
Local Authority 3	Don't Know	Always	Don't know	Often	Often	often	Always	often	Often	Don't know
Local Authority 4										
Local Authority 5	Often	Don't know	Often	Don't know	Often	Often	Often	Often	Sometimes	Don't know
Local Authority 6	Never	Never	Never	Sometimes	Often	Sometimes	Always	Never	Sometimes	Don't Know
Local Authority 7	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Sometimes	Never	Always	Don't know	Always	Don't Know
Local Authority 8	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Always	Always	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Often	Don't Know
Local Authority 9										
Local Authority 10	Always	Sometimes	Always	Always	Often	Sometimes	Always	Often	Don't know	Don't Know
Local Authority 11	Sometimes	Don't know	Don't know	Sometimes	Often	Never	Often	Sometimes	Often	Don't Know
Local Authority 12	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Never	Often	Don't know
Local Authority 13	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know
Local Authority 14	Don't know	Often	Often	Often	Often	Don't know	Never	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know
Local Authority 15	Often	Often	Often	Always	Always	Sometimes	Always	Often	Don't know	Don't know
Local Authority 16	Never	Never	Never	Never	Never	Never	Never	Never	Never	Don't know
Local Authority 17										
Local Authority 18	Don't know	Always	Don't know	Often	Often	often	Always	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know
Local Authority 19	Sometimes	Don't know	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often	Don't know	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Don't know
Local Authority 20	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes
Local Authority 21	Sometimes	Never	Often	Always	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Don't know
Local Authority 22										
Local Authority 23										
Local Authority 24	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Often	Don't know	Don't know	Sometimes	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know
Local Authority 25	Always	Always	Always	Always	Always	Often	Always	Often	Always	Often
Local Authority 26										
Local Authority 27	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know
Local Authority 28	Don't know	Always	Often	Don't know	Always	Often	Often	Don't know	Often	Don't know
Local Authority 29	Often	Don't know	Sometimes	Often	Sometimes	Don't know	Sometimes	Don't know	Sometimes	Don't know
Local Authority 30	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Always	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know
Local Authority 31	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Always	Often	Sometimes	Often	Sometimes	Often	Don't know
Local Authority 32	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Never	Sometimes	Never	Never	Sometimes	Don't know
Local Authority 33	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Don't know
Local Authority 34	Never	Never	Sometimes	Often	Sometimes	Never	Sometimes	Never	Sometimes	Sometimes



Local Authority	The criteria set by an eco-label (e.g. EU- flower, Nordic Swan, Blaue)													7. Criteria used	
	No environmental criteria used	Increased use of renewable resources	Ecologically grown products	Reduced packaging	Environmentally friendlier transport options	Use of recycled material	Use of Products with reduced energy use over life time	Reduced use of water	Reduced content of toxic/harmful chemicals	Decrease of polluting emissions	Design for re-use, dismantling and recycling	No hazardous waste over life time	Other (please specify):	Don't know what criteria are used	
Local Authority 1															
Local Authority 2															
Local Authority 3				X		X	X	X				X			
Local Authority 4															
Local Authority 5		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Local Authority 6	X														
Local Authority 7		X		X		X			X		X				
Local Authority 8													Weighting applied to goods and services	X	
Local Authority 9															
Local Authority 10				X	X	X	X	X			X				
Local Authority 11		X		X		X	X	X							
Local Authority 12		X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X				
Local Authority 13															
Local Authority 14														X	
Local Authority 15		X		X		X									
Local Authority 16	X														
Local Authority 17															
Local Authority 18			X		X	X									
Local Authority 19		X	X		X	X	X	X	X			X			
Local Authority 20														X	
Local Authority 21		X	X						X	X		X			
Local Authority 22															
Local Authority 23															
Local Authority 24	X														
Local Authority 25			X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X			
Local Authority 26															
Local Authority 27															
Local Authority 28			X		X	X	X			X					
Local Authority 29														X	
Local Authority 30															
Local Authority 31	X														
Local Authority 32				X				X							
Local Authority 33			X	X		X		X	X	X	X				
Local Authority 34		X	X			X	X								



Local Authority	8. Sources of guidance on Criteria											9. Other Information Requested				
	Environmental criteria not included in purchasing	Ecolabelling schemes (i.e. EU Ecolabel, Nordic Swan, Blaue Engel, etc.)	Public information available through the internet	Own environmental department/ internal environmental expertise	'Buy it Green' Handbook on Green Public Procurement (by EU Commission)	National guidelines	Own organisational guidelines	Producers/ suppliers	External expertise (consultancy)	Cooperation with other organisations	Courses/ seminars on environmental aspects of procurement	Other (please specify)	Examples of GPP	Use of LCA as criteria	Use of EMS as criteria	Assessment of suppliers re LA functions
Local Authority 1																
Local Authority 2																
Local Authority 3					X	X	X	X				X	Council Canteen	Often	Don't know	Yes
Local Authority 4																
Local Authority 5			X	X	X	X		X						Don't Know	Don't Know	Don't know
Local Authority 6	X													Don't Know	Don't Know	Yes
Local Authority 7				X	X	X	X	X					Janitorial products must comply with EU standards, Service contracts contractors must comply with DCC policy	Sometimes	Never	Yes
Local Authority 8													Weighting criteria given to energy procurement (although Energia chosen above air tricity because of their claim to supply 100% renewable energy as opposed to Airticity's 78% - Airticity produce 78% renewable while energia produce 5% and had proportioned part of their 5% for this market). Waste services procurement (environmental weighting for EMS)	Don't Know	Sometimes	Don't Know
Local Authority 9																
Local Authority 10		X	X	X	X	X	X			X			Reduced Waste	Sometimes	Don't Know	Yes
Local Authority 11			X		X	X								Sometimes	Never	No
Local Authority 12			X		X	X		X						Sometimes	Never	Don't know
Local Authority 13									X	X				Don't know	Don't Know	Don't Know
Local Authority 14	X													Don't know	Never	Yes
Local Authority 15													Commercial Compositing in Canteen	Sometimes	Sometimes	Don't know
Local Authority 16	X													Never	Never	Yes
Local Authority 17																
Local Authority 18			X	X		X							general effort to reduce waste, eg recent tender for it equipment that would help reduce paper waste by auto double sided printing, scan to email etc	Don't know	Never	No
Local Authority 19		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				Often	Sometimes	Yes
Local Authority 20														Never	Never	Don't know
Local Authority 21			X		X	X								Sometimes	Sometimes	Yes
Local Authority 22																
Local Authority 23																
Local Authority 24	X													Don't know	Don't know	Don't know
Local Authority 25			X	X				X						Don't know	Don't know	Don't know
Local Authority 26																
Local Authority 27														Don't know	Don't know	Don't know
Local Authority 28				X		X							Recent Office Waste and Canteen Waste Tender which encourages staff to sort waste and dispose of it appropriately	Sometimes	Sometimes	Yes
Local Authority 29							X		X					Don't know	Don't know	Don't know
Local Authority 30														Don't know	Don't know	Don't know
Local Authority 31	X													Often	Never	Yes
Local Authority 32				X	X								paper, handwashes, energy efficant PC's	Sometimes	Sometimes	No
Local Authority 33	X													Often	Never	Yes
Local Authority 34		X						X				X	Upgrading of windows throughout County Buildings to meet SEI guidelines	Never	Never	Yes



Appendix D: Results of Tool 1 (Other Public Bodies)



1. General Info				2. GPP Policy							
Public Body	Replied	Answering for Whole org/Sect	Awareness of COM 2008 400/02	How Centralised	Policy Doc in place	Green Team in place	EMS in place	Type of EMS	GPP included in EMS	Use Env Criteria when purchasing	GPP driven by individuals rather than corporate
Public Body 1	Yes	Whole org	Yes	4	No	Yes	No			No	No
Public Body 2	Yes	Whole org	Heard of it only	4	No	No	Don't know			Yes	No
Public Body 3	Yes	Whole org	Heard of it only	5	No	Yes	No			Yes	Yes
Public Body 4	Yes	Own Section	Heard of it only	4	Yes	Yes	Yes	Own System	Yes	Yes	No
Public Body 5	No										
Public Body 6	No										
Public Body 7	No										
Public Body 8	No										
Public Body 9	No										
Public Body 10	No										
Public Body 11	Yes	Whole org	Yes	3	No	No	No		No	No	Yes
Public Body 12	Yes	Own Section	Yes	5	Yes	Yes	Yes	ISO 14000 and EMAS	Yes	Yes	No
Public Body 13	No										
Public Body 14	No										
Public Body 15	Yes	Own Section	Heard of it only	2	No	Yes	No		No	Yes	Yes
Public Body 16	Yes	Own Section	No	1	No	Don't know	No		No	Yes	No
Public Body 17	No										
Public Body 18	Yes	Whole org	No	2	No	Yes	No		No	Yes	Don't know
Public Body 19	Yes	Whole org	No	4	No	No	Yes	Own System	No	Yes	No
Public Body 20	No										
Public Body 21	No										
Public Body 22	Yes	Own Section	Yes	4	No	No	No		Don't know	Yes	No
Public Body 23	Yes	Whole org	Yes	2	No	No	No			Yes	Yes



3. Perception of benefits

Public Body	GPP = sig env benefits	GPP=financ ial benefits for Gov	GPP = best value for money	Good example to private sector	Other Benefits - Employment	Other Benefits - Social	Other Benefits - New Markets	Other Benefits - Product Innovation	Other Benefits	Other Benefits	Other Benefits
Public Body 1	Always	Never	Never	Often	X		X	X	encourages eco-design and sustainability	encourages recycling	encourages energy efficiency
Public Body 2	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often				X	Contributes to reducing carbon costs		
Public Body 3	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often	X		X	X			
Public Body 4	Often	Often	Sometimes	Always	X		X	X			
Public Body 5											
Public Body 6											
Public Body 7											
Public Body 8											
Public Body 9											
Public Body 10											
Public Body 11	Often	Often	Sometimes	Always							
Public Body 12	Always	Don't know	Always	Always	X	X	X	X	cultural & balanced regional development spin offs	Sustainability	
Public Body 13											
Public Body 14											
Public Body 15	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often				X	encourages more imaginative approach to production/transport/packaging by producers/retailers		
Public Body 16	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know				X			
Public Body 17											
Public Body 18	Always	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes					Encourage development of more environmental products by private sector	Improves institutions's image and promotes their environmental ethos	Help achieve targets eg reduction in carbon footprint etc
Public Body 19	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Don't know		X	X	X			
Public Body 20											
Public Body 21											
Public Body 22	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Always	X	X	X	X			
Public Body 23	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Don't know	X	X	X	X			



Public Body	4. Barriers										
	Barrier - lack of management support	Barrier - lack of political support	Barrier - Lack of interest	Barrier - Lack of knowledge	Barrier - Lack of training	Barrier - Lack of tools and Information	Barrier - perception that products are more	Barrier - perception that products are not	Barrier - Perception that EU directives are not clear	Barrier - Concerns about legality	Barrier - Other
Public Body 1			X				X			X	Public perception of wastefulness if cheapest option not taken
Public Body 2					X				X		Perception that most products are green-oriented anyway, so marks for green aspects are largely wasted
Public Body 3		X		X			X				
Public Body 4		X									Availability of information on green performance of service providers
Public Body 5											
Public Body 6											
Public Body 7											
Public Body 8											
Public Body 9											
Public Body 10											
Public Body 11		X		X			X				
Public Body 12	X		X				X				We have enshrined sustainability in recent Procurement Procedures revision
Public Body 13											
Public Body 14											
Public Body 15		X		X			X				
Public Body 16	X	X	X								
Public Body 17											
Public Body 18	X						X				
Public Body 19				X			X	X			
Public Body 20											
Public Body 21											
Public Body 22	X	X			X						
Public Body 23		X			X		X				

5. Options to Develop Green Procurement

Public Body	Exchange		Training	Consultant advice	Access to online database		GPP coord between gov depts
	Access to info	of knowledge			Other		
Public Body 1					X	Directive from Government to implement the EU guidelines	Poor
Public Body 2			X	X			Poor
Public Body 3					X		Fair
Public Body 4	X				X		Fair
Public Body 5							
Public Body 6							
Public Body 7							
Public Body 8							
Public Body 9							
Public Body 10							
Public Body 11		X	X	X	X		Fair
Public Body 12	X	X	X	X	X	Complete "buy-in" from Executive management	
Public Body 13							
Public Body 14							
Public Body 15		X			X	Availability of energy ratings on equipment or other indices on services etc	Poor
Public Body 16						Economic Incentive	Poor
Public Body 17							
Public Body 18			X			Promotion of relevant case studies	Fair
Public Body 19	X	X	X		X		Poor
Public Body 20							
Public Body 21							
Public Body 22	X	X	X		X		Fair
Public Body 23	X	X	X			Funding	Poor

6. Criteria used per sector

Public Body	Construction (materials and service)	Food and Catering Services	Transport and transport Services	Energy	Office machinery and computers	Clothing uniforms and other textiles	Paper and printing services	Furniture	Cleaning products and services	Equipment used in the health sector
Public Body 1	Don't know	Don't know	Sometimes	Sometimes	Don't know	Don't know	Never	Never	Never	Don't know
Public Body 2	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Sometimes	Don't know	Sometimes	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know
Public Body 3	Don't know	Always	Always	Don't know	Always	Always	Don't know	Always	Don't know	Don't know
Public Body 4	Often	Often	Often	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Always	Often	Often	Often
Public Body 5										
Public Body 6										
Public Body 7										
Public Body 8										
Public Body 9										
Public Body 10										
Public Body 11	Sometimes	Often	Don't know	Sometimes	Sometimes	Don't know	Sometimes	Don't know	Sometimes	Don't know
Public Body 12	Always	Always	Always	Don't know	Always	Don't know	Always	Always	Always	Don't know
Public Body 13										
Public Body 14										
Public Body 15	Often	Never	Sometimes	Often	Often	Don't know	Always	Never	Never	Don't know
Public Body 16	Always	Don't know	Don't know	Never	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know
Public Body 17										
Public Body 18	Don't know	Don't know	Sometimes	Always	Always	Don't know	Often	Don't know	Don't know	Don't know
Public Body 19	Always	Often	Don't know	Always	Always	Never	Always	Never	Always	Don't know
Public Body 20										
Public Body 21										
Public Body 22	Always	Sometimes	Often	Often	Often	Sometimes	Always	Sometimes	Often	Never
Public Body 23	Always	Don't know	Always	Always	Always	Don't know	Always	Always	Always	Don't know

Public Body	7. Criteria used													Don't know what criteria are used	
	No environmental criteria used	The criteria set by an eco-label (e.g. EU-)	Increased use of renewable resources	Ecologically grown products	Reduced packaging	Environmentally friendlier transport options	Use of recycled material	Use of Products with reduced energy	Reduced use of water	Reduced content of toxic/harmful	Decrease of polluting emissions	Design for re-use, dismantling and	No hazardous waste over life time		Other (please specify):
Public Body 1	X					X								Transport mainly because of shortage of parking.	
Public Body 2		X					X	X						Value of end-of-life disposal services	
Public Body 3		X	X		X		X			X					
Public Body 4		X					X	X		X					
Public Body 5															
Public Body 6															
Public Body 7															
Public Body 8															
Public Body 9															
Public Body 10															
Public Body 11	X														
Public Body 12			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		
Public Body 13															
Public Body 14															
Public Body 15					X	X	X	X							
Public Body 16							X	X	X						
Public Body 17															
Public Body 18			X		X		X	X	X			X			
Public Body 19			X		X	X	X	X				X			
Public Body 20															
Public Body 21															
Public Body 22		X	X				X	X		X	X		X		
Public Body 23		X	X		X	X	X		X		X	X			



Public Body	8. Sources of guidance on Criteria											9. Other Information Requested			Assessment of suppliers re LA functions	
	Environmental criteria not included in purchasing	ng schemes (i.e. EU Ecolabel, Nordic	informati on available through the	environm ental departme nt/ internal	Green' Handboo k on Green Public	National guidelines	Own organisati onal guideline s/	Producer s/ suppliers	External expertise (consulta ncy)	Cooperati on with other organisati ons	seminars on environm ental aspects	Other (please specify):	Examples of GPP	Use of LCA as criteria		Use of EMS as criteria
Public Body 1	X												Shuttle buses provided from train stations. Intelligent lighting systems installed. Gas rather than electricity for central heating.	Never	Never	Yes
Public Body 2		X	X					X		X				Often	Never	Yes
Public Body 3		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				It is an unwritten policy to offer environmentally friendly options, where they exist, to all Government Departments in the markets in which the GSA operates i.e. Transport, Energy, Office Supplies, Advertising, Uniform Clothing and Janitorial Supplies.	Sometimes	Sometimes	Yes
Public Body 4		X					X	X					Producer Responsibility Initiatives (PRIs), which require producers placing goods on the market to ensure there are systems in place to ensure they are managed at end of life in an environmentally sound manner. Most of these PRIs are the result of voluntary agreements. Only compliant suppliers are used in purchasing electrical & electronic equipment, batteries or tyres on behalf of the organisation. Additionally, if any vehicle refinishing is commissioned, only local authority/AIC registered operators are used	Don't know	Often	Yes
Public Body 5																
Public Body 6																
Public Body 7																
Public Body 8																
Public Body 9																
Public Body 10																
Public Body 11														Never	Never	Yes
Public Body 12		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Biodiesel vans / electric vans / various electrical equipment	Always	Always	Yes
Public Body 13																
Public Body 14																
Public Body 15			X	X				X			General Interest		Switch to alternative energy provider; Switch to low energy bulbs; use of recycled paper; use of public transport where possible; copiers chosen with e-efficiency settings; servers chosen with higher capacity to reduce server numbers and e-consumption; use of water filters instead of bottled;	Always	Don't know	Don't know
Public Body 16									X				None	Sometimes	Never	Yes
Public Body 17																
Public Body 18				X		X		X					In all tenders for the supply of equipment, University requirements are set down in template documents to include EU product certification, suppliers must include their Environmental Policy & Procedures, packaging must be removed by suppliers, if a replacement product is being purchased - supplier must take back old equipment for recycling, toner recycling bins located around campus, in laboratory consumables contract - many suppliers offer a lab plastic/bottle recycling programme, in stationery contract - 1 supplier offers "green" alternatives to products.	Often	Sometimes	Yes
Public Body 19			X			X					X			Don't know	Never	Yes
Public Body 20																
Public Body 21																
Public Body 22		X	X	X				X		X				Don't know	Don't know	Don't know
Public Body 23			X				X		X				Wood pellet boiler and heating system, Energy saving lighting, recycled paper, Paper shredding	Sometimes	Sometimes	Yes

Appendix E: Results of Tool 2



1. General Info				2. GPP Policy							
Public Supplier	Answering for Whole org/Sect	Awareness of COM 2008 400/02	How Centralised	Policy Doc in place	Green Team in place	EMS in place	Type of EMS	GPP included in EMS	Use Env Criteria when purchasing	GPP driven by individuals rather than corporate	
Public Supplier	Yes	Whole org	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	Own Sys	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Public Supplier	Yes	Whole org	Yes	3	No	Yes	Own Sys	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Public Supplier	Yes	Whole org	Heard of it onl	1	Yes	Yes	Own Sys	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Public Supplier	Yes	Whole org	Heard of it onl	Don't know	Yes	Yes	Own Sys	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Public Supplier	Yes	Whole org	Heard of it onl	1	Yes	Yes	Own Sys	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Public Supplier	Yes	Own Department	Yes	2	Yes	Yes	ISO 14001	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Public Supplier	Yes	Own Department	Heard of it onl	2	Yes	Yes	ISO 14001	Yes	Yes	Yes	Don't know
Public Supplier	No										
Public Supplier	No										
Public Supplier	No										
Public Supplier	Yes	Whole org	Heard of it onl	2	Yes	No	Own Sys		Yes	Don't know	Don't know
Public Supplier	No										
Public Supplier	Yes	Whole org	Heard of it onl	5	Yes	Yes	Own Sys	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Public Supplier	No										
Public Supplier	Yes	Whole org	Heard of it onl	1	Yes	Yes	Own Sys	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Public Supplier	Yes	Whole org	No	Don't know	Yes	Yes	ISO 14001	No	Yes	No	No
Public Supplier	Yes	Own Department	No	3	Yes	Yes	Own Sys	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Public Supplier	Yes	Whole org	No	4	Yes	Yes	Own Sys	Don't know	No	Yes	No
Public Supplier	Yes	Whole org	No	1	No	No		No	Yes	Yes	No
Public Supplier	No										

3. Perception of benefits

Public Supplier	GPP = sig env benefits	GPP=financia l benefits for Gov	GPP = best value for money	Good example to private sector	Other Benefits - Employment	Other Benefits - Social	Other Benefits - New Markets	Other Benefits - Product inovation	Other Benefits	Other Benefits	Other Benefits
Public Supplier 1	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often	X	X		X			
Public Supplier 2	Sometimes	Always	Sometimes	Never	X	X					
Public Supplier 3	Often	Don't know	Don't know	Often	X	X	X	X			
Public Supplier 4	Often	Don't know	Sometimes	Sometimes	X		X	X			
Public Supplier 5	Always	Always	Always	Always	X	X	X	X	lowers costs significantly	creates awareness in alternative areas	significantly lower emmissions
Public Supplier 6	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often		X	X	X			
Public Supplier 7	Often	Often	Often	Always	X	X	X	X	Develops markets for recycleate		
Public Supplier 8											
Public Supplier 9											
Public Supplier 10											
Public Supplier 11	Often	Often	Sometimes	Always	X	X	X	X			
Public Supplier 12											
Public Supplier 13	Often	Always	Sometimes	Sometimes		X	X	X			
Public Supplier 14											
Public Supplier 15	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often				X			
Public Supplier 16	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often	X	X		X			
Public Supplier 17	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	X		X	X			
Public Supplier 18	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Often							
Public Supplier 19	Sometimes	Never	Sometimes	Never	X		X	X			
Public Supplier 20											

Public Supplier	4.Barriers										
	Barrier - lack of management support	Barrier - lack of political support	Barrier - Lack of interest	Barrier - Lack of knowledge	Barrier - Lack of training	Barrier - Lack of tools and information	perceptio n that products are more expensiv	perceptio n that products are not available	Perceptio n that EU directives are not clear	Barrier - Concerns about legality	Barrier - Other
Public Supplier 1		X				X	X				
Public Supplier 2			X				X				Green Power Supplies and other green features are not considered by purchaser
Public Supplier 3	X			X			X				
Public Supplier 4							X	X			
Public Supplier 5	X		X				X				
Public Supplier 6				X			X	X			
Public Supplier 7		X		X		X					
Public Supplier 8											
Public Supplier 9											
Public Supplier 10											
Public Supplier 11	X			X			X				
Public Supplier 12											
Public Supplier 13				X							
Public Supplier 14											
Public Supplier 15					X		X	X			
Public Supplier 16				X			X	X			
Public Supplier 17			X				X	X			
Public Supplier 18	X	X	X								
Public Supplier 19	X						X	X	X	X	Monetary incentives to provide Green products and services
Public Supplier 20											



5. Options to Develop Green Procurement

Public Supplier	Exchange of knowledge		Training	Consultant advice	Access to online database		Other	GPP coord between gov depts
	Access to info							
Public Supplier 1	X	X	X	X	X			Good
Public Supplier 2		X			X			Poor
Public Supplier 3	X			X				Fair
Public Supplier 4					X			Fair
Public Supplier 5						We are only about Green and the associated benefits for our business partners		Poor
Public Supplier 6		X			X			Poor
Public Supplier 7	X	X	X					Poor
Public Supplier 8								
Public Supplier 9								
Public Supplier 10								
Public Supplier 11		X	X		X			Poor
Public Supplier 12								
Public Supplier 13			X	X				Poor
Public Supplier 14								
Public Supplier 15		X	X					Good
Public Supplier 16			X	X				Poor
Public Supplier 17		X						Fair
Public Supplier 18	X							Poor
Public Supplier 19		X			X			Poor
Public Supplier 20								

6. Service provided

Public Supplier	Construction (materials and service)	Food and Catering Services	Transport and transport Services	Energy	Office machinery and computers	Clothing uniforms and other textiles	Paper and printing services	Furniture	Cleaning products and services	Equipment used in the health sector
Public Supplier 1	X									
Public Supplier 2					X		X			
Public Supplier 3					X		X	X	X	
Public Supplier 4	X	X							X	X
Public Supplier 5					X		X			
Public Supplier 6	X									
Public Supplier 7	X									
Public Supplier 8										
Public Supplier 9										
Public Supplier 10										
Public Supplier 11		X								
Public Supplier 12										
Public Supplier 13	X									
Public Supplier 14										
Public Supplier 15									X	
Public Supplier 16	X									
Public Supplier 17		X								X
Public Supplier 18					X		X			
Public Supplier 19	X									
Public Supplier 20										



7. Questions on Criteria used																
Public Supplier	No environmental criteria used	The criteria set by an eco-label (e.g. EU-flower, Nordic Swan, Blaue Engel, etc.)	Increased use of renewable resources	Ecologically grown products	Reduced packaging	Environmentally friendlier transport options	Use of recycled material	Use of Products with reduced energy use over life time	Reduced use of water	Reduced content of toxic/harmful chemicals	Decrease of polluting emissions	Design for reuse, dismantling and recycling	No hazardous waste over life time	Other (please specify):	Don't know what criteria are used	Can provide details of LCA for product or service
Public Supplier 1			X		X		X		X			X				Yes
Public Supplier 2		X	X					X		X		X				Don't know
Public Supplier 3					X		X									Don't know
Public Supplier 4									X				X			Don't know
Public Supplier 5		X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	All packaging, spare parts and consumables, i.e. everything we supply, we recycle		Yes
Public Supplier 6		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X					Don't know
Public Supplier 7			X				X	X	X	X						No
Public Supplier 8																
Public Supplier 9																
Public Supplier 10																
Public Supplier 11					X		X									No
Public Supplier 12																
Public Supplier 13			X		X		X					X	X			Yes
Public Supplier 14																
Public Supplier 15					X	X	X		X			X				No
Public Supplier 16	X															Don't know
Public Supplier 17			X		X	X	X			X						Don't know
Public Supplier 18					X		X	X								Yes
Public Supplier 19									X							Don't know
Public Supplier 20																

Appendix F: Results of Tool 3



Public Body	Local Authority	Category	Tender Description	Not green	Grey	Light green	Dark green
Local Authority 1	Yes	Food & Catering	Catering Opportunity	X			
Public Body 1	No	Food & Catering	Office Catering Services	X			
Local Authority 2	Yes	Food & Catering	operation of Catering / Restaurant Facilities at Aras An Chontae July 2008			X	
Local Authority 3	Yes	Food & Catering	Tender for Restaurant services at the Watershed, Bohernatounish Road, Kilkenny	X			
Public Body 2	No	Food & Catering	Licence to operate the Main Catering Account in the University of Limerick			X	
Public Body 3	No	Food & Catering	Supply And Delivery Of Prepared Vegetables		X		
Public Body 4	No	Construction	Supply & Delivery of Concrete - Flood Relief Works on River Dodder & in Greater Dublin Area (Feb 2009)	X			
Local Authority 4	Yes	Construction	Framework Agreement for Supply of a range of Construction Materials 2009	X			
Public Body 5	No	Construction	Supply and Installation of cycle parking as part of the Green-Schools Travel Programme 23-2-09	X			
Local Authority 5	Yes	Construction	Housing Development at Kilcohan Park, Waterford - 6 No. Dwellings to be know as "Parkside Walk"			X	
Public Body 6	No	Construction	GAA Pitch Re-Orientation	X			
Authority 6	Yes	Construction	River Moy Quay Wall at Ballina - Repairs & Repointing	X			
Public Body 7	No	Construction	New Primary School for Ballybunion, Co. Kerry	X			
Authority 7	Yes	Construction	Ballyogan Landfill - Culvert Remediation		X		
Authority 8	Yes	Construction	Call off Contract for the Supply & Installation of Traffic Signal Equipment			X	
Authority 9	Yes	Construction	Gort na Glaise, Blackrock Housing Phase 3, Blackrock	X			
Authority 10	Yes	Construction	Regional and Local Road Pavement & Minor Improvement Works 2009: Non-National Roads		X		
Public Body 8	No	Construction	Castlewhite Apartments, Student Accommodation Upgrade and Refurbishment	X			
Local Authority 11	Yes	Furniture	Furniture Fitout for new Carrigaline Library		X		
Public Body 9	No	Furniture	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Wet Benches and a Fume Cupboard	X			
Public Body 10	No	Furniture	Supply of Electrical Goods Block B Phase 2 Development		X		
Public Body 11	No	Furniture	Glenamaddy Community School - Supply of Loose Furniture & Equipment		X		
Local Authority 12	Yes	Printing and Paper	Tender for Print Services - Feb 2009				X
Public Body 12	No	Printing and Paper	Printing and posting of firearm certificates, grant notices, renewal notices			X	
Public Body 13	No	Printing and Paper	Printing and Distribution of the RSA Rules of the Road	X			
Public Body 14	No	Printing and Paper	Printing Consumables	X			
Public Body 15	No	Printing and Paper	Supply of Paper for Print Facility			X	
Public Body 16	No	Printing and Paper	Printing tender		X		
Public Body 17	No	Printing and Paper	Ballot Papers & Posters for European Parliamentary Elections 2009	X			
Public Body 18	No	Printing and Paper	UL 0173 Request for Tender Proposals for the Supply and Delivery of Office Supplies	X			
Local Authority 13	Yes	Energy Supply	Request for Tender for the supply of Electricity to various Facilities 2009			X	
Public Body 19	No	Energy Supply	Energy Concession Management			X	

Public Body	Local Authority	Category	Tender Description	Not green	Grey	Light green	Dark green
Local Authority 14	Yes	Energy Supply	Tender for the Provision of Petrol, Diesel and Fuel Oils			X	
Public Body 20	No	Office Machinery and Computers	Application/Database server			X	
Public Body 21	No	Office Machinery and Computers	For the Supply and Maintenance of Vending Machine(ie food & beverages)Services to Beaumont Hospital	X			
Public Body 22	No	Office Machinery and Computers	telephone and data transmission services	X			
Public Body 23	No	Office Machinery and Computers	telecommunications equipment and supplies	X			
Public Body 24	No	Office Machinery and Computers	Design, Construct & Assemble, exhibitions for use at EPA events			X	
Public Body 25	No	Cleaning Services	Cleaning at Ballyconnell Station & Window, Guttering,Downpipe.Fascia & Soffits Ballyconnell District			X	
Public Body 26	No	Cleaning Services	Janitorial and Household Consumables 2009 2010	X			
Public Body 27	No	Cleaning Services	The provision to Beaumont Hospital for the laundering of its Fire Evacuation Sheets		X		
Local Authority 15	Yes	Cleaning Services	Cleaning of Westmeath County Council, County Building's	X			
Public Body 28	No	Cleaning Services	Tender for the Supply of Hygiene Services & Consumables for Marine Institute	X			
Public Body 29	No	Cleaning Services	Provision of Laundry Services, Scrub Suits and Dust Mats	X			

Appendix G: Results of Tool 4



Local Authority	Plan in place	Period	GPP addressed	Strong/ Weak	Comments
Local Authority 1	No				
Local Authority 2	Yes	None specified	Mentioned as a policy	Weak	Mentions waste recycling policies only
Local Authority 3	Yes	None specified	No Mention	None	
Local Authority 4	Yes	2008-2010	No Mention	None	
Local Authority 5	Yes	2009-2010	No Mention	None	
Local Authority 6	No				
Local Authority 7	No				
Local Authority 8	No				
Local Authority 9	Yes	2009-2011	Mentioned as a procurement principle	Weak	
Local Authority 10	Yes	2008+	Section of Plan Dedicated to GPP	Strong	
Local Authority 11	Yes	2007-2009	Mentioned as a policy	Weak	Mentions waste recycling policies only
Local Authority 12	Yes	2008+	Section of Plan Dedicated to GPP	Strong	
Local Authority 13	Yes	2008+	Mentioned as a recommendation	Weak	Relates to green energy only
Local Authority 14	Yes	2009-2012	No Mention	None	
Local Authority 15	Yes	2008+	Section of Plan Dedicated to GPP	Strong	Requests the implementation of a Green procurement policy
Local Authority 16	Yes	2008+	Mentioned as a recommendation	Weak	Continuous review of energy costs mentioned
Local Authority 17	Yes	2008-2009	Mentioned as a recommendation	Weak	Continuous review of energy costs mentioned
Local Authority 18	Yes	None specified	No Mention	None	
Local Authority 19	Yes	2008+	Section of Plan Dedicated to GPP	Strong	
Local Authority 20	Yes	None specified	Mentioned as a procurement principle	Weak	"Ensure that procurement supports waste recycling policy or introduction of recycled paper in all the Council's activities"
Local Authority 21	No				
Local Authority 22	Yes	2008+	Section of Plan Dedicated to GPP	Strong	
Local Authority 23	Yes	2008-2009	Section of Plan Dedicated to GPP	Strong	
Local Authority 24	Yes	2008-2009	Section of Plan Dedicated to Green energy supply	Weak	Relates to green energy only
Local Authority 25	No				
Local Authority 26	Yes	2008-2011	No Mention	None	
Local Authority 27	Yes	2008+	No Mention	None	
Local Authority 28	No				
Local Authority 29	Yes	2008+	Section of Plan Dedicated to Green energy supply	Weak	Relates to green energy only
Local Authority 30	Yes	2007-2009	No Mention	None	
Local Authority 31	Yes	2008-2010	Section of Plan Dedicated to GPP	Strong	
Local Authority 32	No				
Local Authority 33	Yes	2008-2010	No Mention	None	
Local Authority 34	Yes	2008+	Section of Plan Dedicated to Green energy	Weak	Relates to green energy only