

“Buying Social Justice” through public procurement

Expert interview guide

Role and organisation:

What does the organisation do?

What is your position and role in the organisation?

How long have you been doing this job?

Social procurement:

What is your experience of social procurement? (in any previous and current role)

And in relation to equality specifically?

Which equality areas?

Policy:

What are the drivers for incorporating social or equality objectives into procurement in your work?

If several, probe which are most significant.

How important are these considered to be within your organisation?

[Select questions, depending on interviewee]

What is your view of policy on the use of social procurement in Scotland/Wales/England/UK (as appropriate)?

How does policy on social procurement in Scotland/Wales/England (as appropriate) compare to the other nations of the UK, in your opinion?

What is your view of policy on the use of social procurement as it applies to the construction sector?

How important is social procurement considered to be in local government/housing/universities (as appropriate)? Are any other sectors better?

Process:

At what stages of the procurement process are equality/social considerations introduced?

What guidelines/advice do you follow when undertaking social procurement?

Monitoring:

How are targets/objectives reported on? Throughout supply chain?

Effectiveness:

Do you have any good examples of how equality has been incorporated into procurement?

What were the outcomes?

What enabled these outcomes to be achieved?

Barriers:

What are the barriers to achieving equality aims in procurement?

Are there policy or legal changes you'd like to see?

Framework agreements:

Have you used framework agreements for procurement?

What are the benefits/obstacles in relation to achieving social value/aims?

Other stakeholders:

Are there other actors that can help support social procurement, ie voluntary sector organisations, trade unions, professional/industry bodies?

Other:

Is there anyone else we should interview?