



Supplier Sustainability Charter

The V&A champions creativity as a force for planet-positive change.

We procure goods and services responsibly to maximise social, environmental and economic value. We aim to be net zero by 2035 and to ensure that our museums are ready for a changing climate. By 2035, all suppliers must be committed to and be progressing towards a net zero date that is no later than 2050.

This charter outlines how our suppliers can support our ambition. It aligns with the Government's National Procurement Policy Statement; our Strategic Plan, Climate Action Plan, and Procurement Policy; and the South Ken Zen+ Supply Chain Charter, which we are a signatory of. Our suppliers are expected to comply with all applicable environmental laws and regulations, and to be striving for new and innovative ways of working to deliver social value for people and planet.

For most suppliers that work with us, this charter is mandatory. Suppliers may be required to provide evidence of compliance and commitment to it if the value of work is above £15k or is considered high risk. We appreciate that some suppliers may be starting their sustainability journey, therefore we may ask for a commitment to meeting the standards in this Charter by a certain date (such as one year from signing a contract).

Our target is to achieve net zero aligned scope 3 emissions, which means:

- 100% of direct suppliers committed to and progressing towards a net zero date that is no later than 2050
- 100% of investments in a net zero aligned fund
- All other scope 3 emission sources aligned to an absolute emissions reduction pathway to 90% by 2050 (i.e. a 18% reduction by 2030 and a 36% reduction by 2035).



'Fruit' Wallpaper by William Morris, 1865-66. Given by Sydney Vacher © Victoria and Albert Museum, London

The Charter

Climate change mitigation and adaptation

- Committed to and progressing towards a net zero date that is no later than 2050
- Measure and monitor emissions and be open to sharing data to input into our carbon accounting software
- Develop and provide climate resilient products/services. Identify and appropriately mitigate climate and nature-related risks to the supply chain
- Share or develop Carbon Reduction Plan(s) demonstrating progress towards goals
- Work collaboratively to develop and offer innovative solutions that support our targets
- Adopt sound environmental management practices and align with recognised standards

Sustainable resource use

- Apply the waste hierarchy and send zero waste to landfill
- Avoid single-use items, wherever possible and adopt sustainable packaging practices when unavoidable
- Foster water efficient ways of working
- Provide and design products in support of the principles of a circular economy
- Include sustainability criteria when assessing and selecting your own suppliers/sub-contractors
- Source produce locally where possible

Protection of environment, biodiversity and restoration of natural habitats

- Eradicate or reduce the use of substances harmful to the environment
- Use wood and paper products that have been certified sustainable by a recognised scheme
- Source ethical and environmentally positive produce
- Avoid or only use palm oil certified sustainable by a recognised scheme
- Ensure responsible sourcing of materials to prevent deforestation, degradation, breaches of local environmental law, and harm to Indigenous Peoples and local communities

Prevention of pollution

- Use low-carbon delivery methods and explore innovative solutions to reduce or consolidate deliveries and site traffic
- Increase the number of low emission vehicles within fleets and logistics providers
- Protect clean water sources by minimising the use of pollutants and toxic materials, substituting for non-hazardous materials wherever possible