

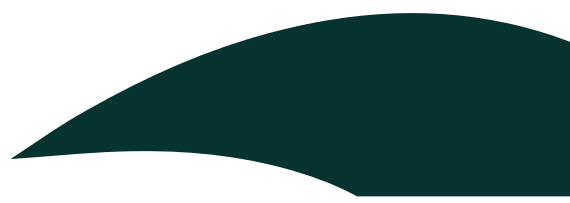
# Abbey Group Responsible Procurement Policy

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## Introduction

At Abbey Group, we are committed to ethical, sustainable, and socially responsible procurement practices. Our procurement decisions reflect our dedication to fair trade, environmental stewardship, human rights, and ethical business practices. This policy ensures that our supply chain aligns with the regulations of Ireland, the UK, international best practices, and industry standards, promoting sustainable tourism and responsible business conduct.

## Policy Guidelines

### **Compliance with Law and Regulations**

We adhere to all relevant Irish, UK, EU, and international laws regarding procurement, labour rights, fair competition, and environmental protection.

We expect our suppliers to comply with all applicable tax, labour, and trade regulations, including those outlined by the Irish government, UK government, and the EU Green Public Procurement Guidelines.

### **Respect for Human Rights and Conflict-Free Sourcing**

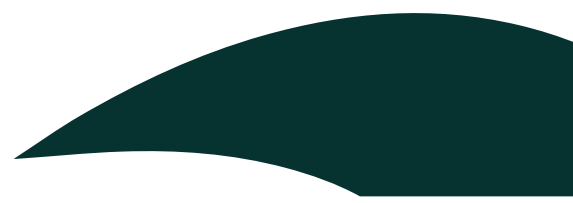
We support ethical sourcing and expect suppliers to uphold the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

We prohibit sourcing from suppliers linked to child labour, forced labour, or exploitative conditions.

We ensure that materials and products are not sourced from regions associated with human rights violations or conflicts.

### **Ethical Trade Practices**

We prioritise suppliers who adhere to fair trade principles, ensuring fair wages, safe working conditions, and ethical labour standards.



Where possible be use local suppliers, cooperatives, and small businesses that support community development and economic equity.

## **Social Responsibility**

Our procurement decisions support locally owned and operated businesses that actively contribute to their communities, uphold cultural heritage, and respect indigenous rights.

We work with inclusive and diverse suppliers, including women-owned, minority-owned, and socially responsible enterprises.

## **Environmental Sustainability**

We strive to reduce, reuse and recycle where possible, minimise plastic waste and the use of harmful substances in our operations.

We favour eco-friendly products and services, such as:

- Sustainable materials (biodegradable, compostable, recycled or returnable goods).
- Goods that avoid unnecessary packaging.
- Energy-efficient and low-carbon solutions.
- Environmentally friendly alternatives to harsh chemicals.
- Responsible tourism services that minimise environmental impact.

We favour environmentally certified suppliers in our procurement and such that follow sustainable tourism guidelines, such as Leave No Trace, Green Hospitality initiatives, and UK Green Tourism standards. Where certification is not available, sustainability measures and performance are considered.

## **Animal Welfare**

We do not engage with suppliers that exploit animals for entertainment (e.g., unethical wildlife tourism, captive animal performances).

We ensure suppliers meet our requirements as outlined in our Animal Welfare Policy and comply with Irish, UK, and EU animal protection laws.



We encourage responsible wildlife interactions, ensuring no disturbance to natural behaviours or habitats.

We do not buy products derived from threatened species and advise our guests against buying these.

### **Supply Chain Transparency & Accountability**

We request clear documentation of sourcing and ethical supply chain practices from all vendors.

Any violations of ethical sourcing, labour rights, or environmental standards may result in contract termination.

### **Consumer Empowerment**

We provide transparent information to our clients about the sustainability and ethical sourcing of our services.

Clients are encouraged to make informed choices by promoting responsible tourism, sustainable products, and ethical experiences.

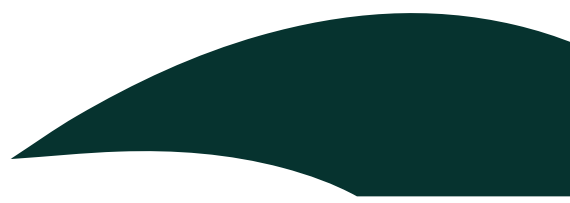
On our tours we offer visitors the chance to purchase local produce, art and crafts based on the area's nature, history and culture.

### **Collaboration and Partnerships**

We collaborate with stakeholders, industry leaders, and sustainability experts to promote ethical procurement.

We engage in knowledge-sharing initiatives to improve sustainability across the tourism sector.

We support local entrepreneurs who offer sustainable products and services inspired by the area's nature, history, and culture. This is accomplished through collaboration in our programmes and at our events, where they have the opportunity to showcase their products.



## Continuous Improvement

We review our procurement policy annually to integrate the latest best practices, innovations, and legal requirements.


Our supplier database will be evaluated regularly, and improvement plans implemented when necessary.

We seek staff training opportunities to enhance awareness of responsible procurement and sustainability.

## Conclusion

At Abbey Group, responsible procurement is central to our mission. This policy is communicated to all employees, suppliers, and clients. By working with ethical suppliers, promoting sustainability, and prioritising fair trade and social responsibility, we aim to positively impact people, animals, and the planet while delivering exceptional travel experiences.

This policy has been reviewed and approved by:



Darren Byrne, CEO, 26.03.25



Sarah Muir, Sustainability Co-ordinator - Abbey UK, 26.03.25



Laura Stelling, Sustainability Co-ordinator - Abbey Ireland, 26.03.25



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