



# PPN 01/21 SOCIAL VALUE IN PROCUREMENT

**BSO PaLS has a targeted approach to implementation for this PPN.**

## Background

PPN 01/21 requires Contracting Authorities to apply social value throughout all stages of the procurement cycle. From 1 June 2022, tenders have included a minimum of 10% of the total award criteria to score social value. Under PPN 01/21, this 10% minimum applies to contracts for works above the UK Procurement Threshold and contracts for services above £500,000 (inclusive of VAT). It is also possible to give greater weight to social value than the 10% minimum or to score social value on contracts outside of these thresholds.

Social value refers to wider financial and non-financial impacts on the wellbeing of individuals, communities & the environment. Social value incorporates all aspects of sustainable procurement, including ethical & sustainable supply chains, community benefits & wealth building, job & skills creation and efforts to decarbonise.

## Operational Approach

BSO PaLS continue to work collaboratively with the Strategic Investment Board (SIB) to understand and maximise the social value delivered by public procurement, in line with the Department's strategic priorities.

All PaLS staff have attended SIB training on social value when it was first implemented and continue to avail of training offered by SIB. Tender Assessment Panels (TAP's) from HSC Organisations are routinely encouraged to attend this training when involved in tenders and signposted to resources available on SIB's website.

PaLS will continue to include social value in all relevant contracts going forward, and to monitor the impacts as part of the contract management process.

Regarding reporting, BSO PaLS live 'Sourcing Register' captures key information to facilitate an automated reporting process and will continue to monitor data to ensure key information is captured following award of contracts.



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### Social Value delivery in 2025/26:

- ❖ Paid Employment – 587 weeks. (196 weeks delivered in 2024/25)
- ❖ Environmental Initiatives – 41 hours.
- ❖ Financial Donations – £38,856.00.
- ❖ Health & Wellbeing - 323 hours.
- ❖ Skills Development & Educational Attainment – 1591 hours.
- ❖ Working with VCSE Sector – 25 Hours
- ❖ Environmental Action Plans – 7 plans.

### Further to case studies previously noted in 2024/25 report:

Contract 4955117 Provision of a Regional Service User Network for Adult Service Users & Service User Groups in NI (Substance Use Services)

Contract Period: 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2028 with up to 3x12 month extension periods **ASCERT has delivered:**

- 15 '5 Steps to Wellbeing' sessions to 156 people.
- Worked in partnership with the Bruiser Theatre Company to support the development & delivery of a health promotion initiative through the theatre production 'Wasted'. This aimed to raise awareness of alcohol use, consent and the potential consequences of risky behaviours among young people & young adults.

Contract 4352378 Community Based Psychological Intervention & Support Services for People who Self-Harm including support for their Family / Carer / Support Person

Contract Period: 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2027 with up to 4x12 month extension periods

#### **ASCERT has delivered:**

- 2 hour wellbeing workshop to 10 staff.
- 10 staff received 3 hours of additional organisational time to implement wellness plan.
- 10 staff have wellness plans in place.

#### **Inspire Wellbeing has delivered:**

- 6x reflective practice sessions delivered to 123 attendees.
- Held an Inspire Staff Conference.
- Physical Health – held Inspire Summerfest (6 hours, 300 participants), Abi's Butterfly Breeze (4 hours, 112 participants), Inspire Abseil (2 hours, 30 participants).
- Community Volunteering – Rejuvenation of Community Wellbeing Garden (8 hours, 10 participants), Winter Wonderland (4 hours, 50 participants).
- Various workshops of self harm – JIMS Project (2 hours, 7 participants), Cruse Bereavement (2 hours, 13 participants), Barnardo's Fostering & Adoption (2 hours, 13 participants)

#### **Zest has delivered:**

- 6 group sessions on Emotional health and the impact of drugs & alcohol (556 attendees)
- 2 awareness sessions on understanding suicide (circa 200 attendees)



## Case Study: Community Based Early Intervention Services for Adult & Family Members / Carers / People affected by Substance Use

**Contract Number: 5255636**

**Contract Name: Community Based Early Intervention Services for Adults & Family Members / Carers / People affected by Substance Use**

**Contract Period: 1st October 2025 to 30th September 2028 with provision for up to 4 x 12 month extension period options**

The Provider and value of each Lot including all extensions & contingencies is provided below:

- **Lot 1: Belfast Health & Social Care Trust (BHSCT) Area**  
Awarded to Inspire Wellbeing - £5,243,580.30
- **Lot 2: South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (SEHSCT) Area**  
Awarded to Inspire Wellbeing - £2,570,649.90
- **Lot 3: Northern Health & Social Care Trust (NHSCT) Area**  
Awarded to Links Counselling Service - £3,000,637.50
- **Lot 4: Western Health & Social Care Trust (WHSCT) Area**  
Awarded to Action on Substances through Community Education & Related Training (ASCERT) - £2,457,042.00
- **Lot 5: Southern Health & Social Care Trust (SHSCT) Area**  
Awarded to Links Counselling Service - £2,611,455.00

A score of 10% of the award criteria was allocated for Social Value and the 'Alternative' approach was utilised. The TAP selected 'Theme 4 - Promoting Wellbeing', Indicator 4.2: *'Influence staff, suppliers, customers and communities through the delivery of the Contract to support health and wellbeing, including physical and mental health.'*

### Inspire Wellbeing commitments for Lot 1 & 2:

- 2 hours x 8 sessions p.a. of ongoing & regular reflective practice and debrief sessions provided to all contract workforce staff to support and enhance their emotional wellbeing and resilience as they carry out their work dealing with complex and emotive issues.
- Digital wellbeing resources provided to each service user including opportunities to get involved in peer support groups, volunteering & community activities in Inspire and/or other community/voluntary organisations offered to all customers/service users.
- Physical health initiatives: 4 hours x 2 initiatives p.a.
- The contract workforce will have access to community volunteering opportunities across Inspire's mental health, intellectual disability, addiction & autism services within local communities: 4 hours x 2 initiatives per annum.
- Information sessions for staff, volunteers and service users from other community organisations: 2 hours x 6 workshops p.a.
- Community engagement events promoting mental health awareness: 2 hours x 4 events p.a.



## Case Study: Community Based Early Intervention Services for Adult & Family Members / Carers / People affected by Substance Use (continued)

### Links Counselling commitments for Lots 3 & 5:

- Annual run/walk to encourage health and wellbeing while also raising awareness of the PHA substance abuse programme.
- Invite team members working on this programme to annual retreat at Murlough House in County Down – includes walks in the forest & beach and also CPD programmes.
- Community information sessions, posters on substance abuse - information sessions open to the public: 2 sessions annually and distribution of 150 posters and social media promotion.
- Weekly free fruit bowls in Links Counselling.

### ASCERT Commitments for Lot 4:

- Community wellbeing sessions providing education and practical strategies for making informed, healthier choices about alcohol or drug use and support health and wellbeing. The sessions will be accessible to individuals and organisations throughout the community: Minimum 10 x 1 hour sessions per year to reach a minimum of 100 participants annually.
- Staff Wellbeing Project: support the health and wellbeing of the contract service staff and other ASCERT staff through the delivery of a 2-hour wellbeing workshop based on the Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing framework to at least 10 ASCERT staff annually: 2-hour session for at least 10 staff annually with minimum 3 hours follow-up support (30 hours total).

**Each of the Providers will be required to report on delivery of Social Value requirements on a quarterly basis.**



## Case Study: The Provision of an Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) adult Longer-Term Rehabilitation & Training Service in Northern Ireland

**Contract Number: 4578327**

**Contract Title: Provision of an ABI Adult Longer-Term Rehabilitation & Training Service in NI**

**Contract Period: 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2028 with provision for up to 2 x 12 month extension periods**

This contract was awarded to: **The Cedar Foundation.**

The estimated total value including extensions and contingencies was **£2,791,880.00.**

The 'Alternative' approach was utilised & the Social Value was scored at 10% of the total award criteria.

The TAP selected '**Theme 4 – Promoting Wellbeing**', '**Indicator 4.2 – Influence staff, suppliers, customers and communities through the delivery of the Contract to support health and wellbeing, including physical and mental health.**

Cedar aims to create an inclusive society and supports this through strong staff development and wellbeing initiatives. Cedar will extend its existing **Health & Wellbeing programme**, including mental health first aiders, wellbeing sessions, and a health cashback scheme to all contract staff. A **trauma-informed approach** will be embedded, including training, supervision and an assessment of services using the Trauma-Informed Toolkit by March 2026.

Cedar will also deliver **free Brain Injury Awareness Training** to community organisations (one session per quarter) to build local capacity and reduce inequalities. Additionally, they will host **two annual benchmarking sessions** to help smaller organisations develop user involvement and coproduction models.

**Social value activities will be monitoring by the Head of Community Inclusion services, with quarterly reporting, RAG ratings, and annual contract-specific social value reporting.**



## Case Study: The Provision of a Hearing Aid User Support Service (HAUSS) to empower Adult Service Users in the use of Hearing Aids following issue in NI

**Contract Number: 4695451**

**Contract Title: Provision of a HAUSS to empower Adult Service Users in the use of Hearing Aids following issue in NI**

**Contract Period: 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2028 with provision for up to 2 x 12 month extension periods**

This contract was awarded to: **Royal National Institute for Deaf People (RNID)**.

The estimated total value including extensions and contingencies was **£1,894,028.50**.

The 'Alternative' approach was utilised & the Social Value was scored at 10% of the total award criteria.

The TAP selected '**Theme 4 – Promoting Wellbeing**', '**Indicator 4.1 – Support the health and wellbeing, including physical and mental health, in the Contract workforce, throughout the life of the Contract Period.**

### **RNID commitments for initiative 1 - activities to continuously improve health and wellbeing of Staff on the Contract:**

- Online wellbeing sessions led by internal or external specialists, with full communication support and recorded access.
- Regular health and wellbeing resources shared via the Volunteer Zone/intranet and in non-digital formats.
- Wellbeing-focused training for staff who manage HAUSS teams or volunteers.

### **RNID commitments for initiative 2 – In work development and progression opportunities:**

- Online wellbeing sessions on topics identified by staff and volunteers, delivered by internal or external specialists, recorded for future access, and supported with full communication accessibility.
- Regular wellbeing resources and articles made available digitally and in non-digital formats.
- Training for managers to help them support the wellbeing of staff and volunteers.

**All activities will include evaluation, with individual support needs addressed through standard 1:1 processes. RNID will report quarterly to the contracting authority and conduct monthly internal reviews. An annual summary of learning will also be produced for internal and external sharing.**



## Case Study: Car Parking Solution Incorporating Automatic Number Plate Recognition & Enforcement

**Contract Number: 456034**

**Contract Title: Car Parking Solution Incorporating Automatic Number Plate Recognition & Enforcement**

**Contract Period: 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2029 with provision for up to 36 month extension periods**

This contract was awarded to: **Parkingeye**.

The estimated total value including extensions and contingencies was **£14,470,829.00**.

The 'Points' approach was utilised & the Social Value was scored at 10% of the total award criteria. The TAP selected indicators across the following themes: **'Theme 1 Increasing Secure Employment & Skills'** and **Theme 4 'Promoting Wellbeing'**.

**Parkingeye commitments for initiative 1 - Paid employment for people who face barriers to employment or are from deprived areas:**

- Parkingeye Car Park Attendants have been sourced from 10 areas which fall into the top 50% MDM (Multiple Deprivation Measure) ranked areas.
- Data taken from the latest available MDM data from the NI government website and over-layed with attendant address data shows 2 attendants sourced from the top 10% of areas, 2 within the 11% to 20% band and the remaining 6 within the 21% to 50% band.

**Parkingeye commitments for initiative 2 – In work development & educational attainment:**

- Attendant Managers visit Attendants monthly and carry out a performance discussion at this visit, setting goals where appropriate.
- The attendants are part of the company annual performance review cycle .
- Where identified during the performance cycle, attendants are supported by allowing time to achieve learning goals such as expanding knowledge in appeals and back-office processing of PCN's via online meetings.
- Attendants are able to access learning content throughout the month totalling at least an hour.
- Attendants have completed 6 hours of training each and have courses on the following booked in Disability Awareness & Conflict Management.
- Life skills session (e.g. financial literacy, nutrition, technology skills) to support learning new skills is planned to be delivered within the current performance cycle.
- Skills development for an attendant with a specific disadvantage in the labour market (e.g. over 65) are offered 8 hours of specific training at their request.
- Skills development for an attendant with a disability (if declared) are offered 8 hours of specific training at their request.



## Case Study: Car Parking Solution Incorporating Automatic Number Plate Recognition & Enforcement (continued)

### **Parkingeye commitments for initiative 3 - Health and wellbeing initiatives to support employees, including those working remotely, on the contract:**

- All Parkingeye employees are covered by the Parkingeye Wellbeing Charter.
- Health and wellbeing support given in person (where required) by the attendant team managers during monthly visits to site.
- There is a qualified mental health first aider and on hand should any of the remote employees require support.
- Attendants have access to the Parkingeye team of 11 further Mental Health First aiders should the qualified mental health first aider not be available as well as a team of 7 Menopause Champion.
- Attendants receive the regular Wellbeing Wednesday email which covers a wide range of wellbeing topics.
- Attendants have access to an Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) and a wellbeing resource portal.
- Parkingeye are currently enrolling Attendants as members of Simplyhealth, the cost of which is covered by the company. This provides a range of benefits such as money back on treatments, hospital stays, diagnoses with consultants, dental and eye care. Access to a GP is also included plus discounted physiotherapy, an EAP and counselling sessions and a wellbeing hub.
- Attendants are introduced to their group of remote colleagues on chat groups and are encouraged to ask each other questions.



## Case Study: Collection, Transportation & Recycling of Organic Waste

**Contract Number: 4907292**

**Contract Title: Collection, Transportation & Recycling of Organic Waste**

**Contract Period: 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2029 with the option of extending for any period(s) of up to and including 36 months**

This contract was awarded to: **Natural World Products Ltd (NWP)**

The estimated total value including extensions & contingencies was **£2,607,000.00**.

The 'Alternative' approach was utilised and the Social Value was scored at 10% of the total award criteria. The TAP selected '**Theme 3 – Delivering Zero Carbon**', '**Indicator 3.1 – Deliver additional environmental benefits in the performance of the contract including working towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions.**

### **NWP commitments delivered to date:**

- A number of Community Groups in Northern Ireland provided with education on the benefits of growing their own peat free growing media, recycled from co-mingled organic feedstocks.
- Peat free compost provided to Cullingtree Meadow, supported housing scheme for people living with dementia in partnership with Belfast Health and Social Care Trust. Education provided to help maintain the existing gardens and also help establish some vegetable and fruit growing areas. Support and advice from the NWP have been ongoing.
- NWP's Community Outreach Department engaged with Macmillan and Bank of Ireland volunteers to enhance the Cancer Centre Garden at Belfast City Hospital. NWP provided support in the form of a donation of peat free growing media, provision of circa £100 of spring bulbs and a £240 voucher for Hillmount Garden Centre. The NWP outreach manager spent time with the volunteers, helping to plant spring bulbs and enhance the space.



## Case Study: Collection & Recycling/Recovery or Disposal of Healthcare Domestic Waste

**Contract Number: 4504047**

**Contract Title: Collection & Recycling/Recovery or Disposal of Healthcare Domestic Waste**

**Framework Agreement Period: 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2028**

This contract was awarded to: **MacNabb Waste Management Ltd.**

The 'Alternative' approach was utilised and the Social Value was scored at 10% of the total award criteria. The TAP selected '**Theme 3 – Delivering Zero Carbon**', '**Indicator 3.1 – Deliver additional environmental benefits in the performance of the contract including working towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions.**

### **MacNabb commitments delivered to date:**

- MacNabb were using traditional road diesel but have now moved to utilise Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) for both of the vehicles (Bin and skip lorries) being used for this Contract and have set up a tank of HVO on their site.
- Carbon Reduction Plan initiated by MacNabb's with targets covering Waste collection, Waste processing, Waste disposal, Office operations and transport and Supply Chain and Scope 3 Carbon.
- A site visit was facilitated by MacNabb's for BSO and South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust staff to create awareness around waste and educate on ways to work towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions.
- Wildflower area established at MacNabb's Downpatrick site to promote local wildlife and insects.
- Recycled stone and soil initiative underway with the recycled material then added to a pre-mix for aggregate as well as for general stone use. This promotes the use of recycled materials instead of relying solely on raw materials.