



## Helsinki strives to achieve 100% SPP by 2020

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### Does the City of Helsinki currently have an SPP strategy in place?

The City of Helsinki has a number of policies in place which support SPP, including a general strategy programme which is valid for the council term 2013 – 2016. As part of this programme the City has agreed to develop its procurement processes to ensure that all procurements carried out by the City include aspects which will lead to improved environmental protection.

We also have a procurement strategy in place which defines the City of Helsinki's goals for SPP. As part of this strategy, the City aims to ensure that by 2020, 100% of all procurements carried out will include environmental criteria.

Additionally, we have an established environmental policy, which sets out the central environmental goals in both the medium (up until 2020) and long term (2050). These goals are outlined in our 2013 [Environmental Report](#). In the medium term, these goals focus primarily on reaching the target of 100% SPP by 2020 and reducing waste. For example, the City aims to reduce the volume of communal waste produced in line with 2013 levels by 10%, and to increase by 10% the amount of materials arising from communal waste that will be reused.

Furthermore, we have a strategy for global responsibility that particularly focuses on

aspects of social sustainability. Also, the City of Helsinki's Deputy Mayor [Pekka Sauri](#) is the Chair of the Procura+ Campaign which further demonstrates the City's commitment to SPP.

### What have been the most successful SPP tenders carried out by the City of Helsinki in recent years?

In Helsinki, environmental criteria are typically included in the mandatory requirements, as laid out in the technical specifications, or in the selection criteria of a tender. This demonstrates that for the City, environmental aspects are not just nice-to-haves but are rather essential aspects of a tender which must be met by bidders.

We have experienced success on both a large and small scale with our sustainable procurement projects in Helsinki in recent years. Two of our more recent procurements which are worth highlighting, include the procurement for trams for the HKL (City's transport department) and the framework agreement for IT equipment and services. A reduced environmental impact and low lifecycle costs played an important part in the design and procurement of the new Transtech Artic tram commissioned by HKL. The tram is durable, light, and requires little maintenance. Additionally, as the tram features a regenerative braking system, thanks to which the energy released in braking is used for heating, the heating

energy consumption of the tram is reduced by 75%.

The tram also has a flexible structure that reduces friction and results in lower energy consumption. Additionally, the tram can output breaking energy back into the network. The first two trams came into operation in early 2014 and a further 38 trams will be delivered in 2016 – 2018.

#### Highlight Quote:

**'Our long term goal is to have sustainability taken into account for all procurements carried out by the City.'**

The tender for IT equipment and services contract, the total value of which was approx. €50 million, covers the procurement period of 2015 – 2018 and accounts for 10,000 computers yearly. The [GPP 2020 carbon savings calculator](#) for office ICT equipment was used as part of the process. The procurement was completed at the end of 2014 and the framework agreement is now in place.

As part of the market research phase for this tender, it was recognised that the lifetime of a basic computer was estimated to be five years and that of a laptop four years. With a yearly volume of 7,000 PC's, 2,000 laptops and 2,000 screens we estimated that during the whole lifecycle the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>-emissions (t CO<sub>2</sub>/lifetime) exceeds 170

tonnes when compared to the hardware based on previous procurement contract made in 2012.

We feel it is very important to change the way people think as regards planning and developing public service production. First thinking of the possible sustainability aspects of a tender is an integral part of the way we work and will ultimately lead to better results.

As with any process, implementing SPP is not only about implementing large scale, organisational changes but also involves carrying out smaller and at times even mundane tasks, which are nevertheless equally as important to the success of our procurement policy. For example, by simply adding how readily available certain sustainable products are on the market for a variety of product and service categories, we are helping procurers to make more informed decisions, while ensuring a steady shift towards the more sustainable operation of the City.

### **What are your long-term SPP goals in the City of Helsinki?**

Our long term goal is to have sustainability taken into account for all procurements carried out by the City.

According to our environmental policy, the aim is that both the material and ecological efficiency of the City's departments will be significantly improved, and that these sustainability factors will be considered in all investments, procurements and notable projects by 2050. Additionally, all City departments and subsidiaries will be trained in carrying out sustainable procurement by 2020.

Although the way GPP and SPP aspects are implemented may differ from one procurement project to another, the end goal has to be ambitious and therefore we have set the bar high.