

UKUPC

IMPACT

STATEMENT

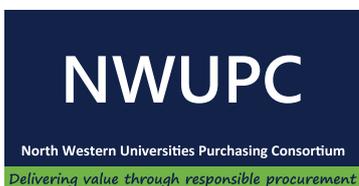
2022 / **2023**





UKUPC

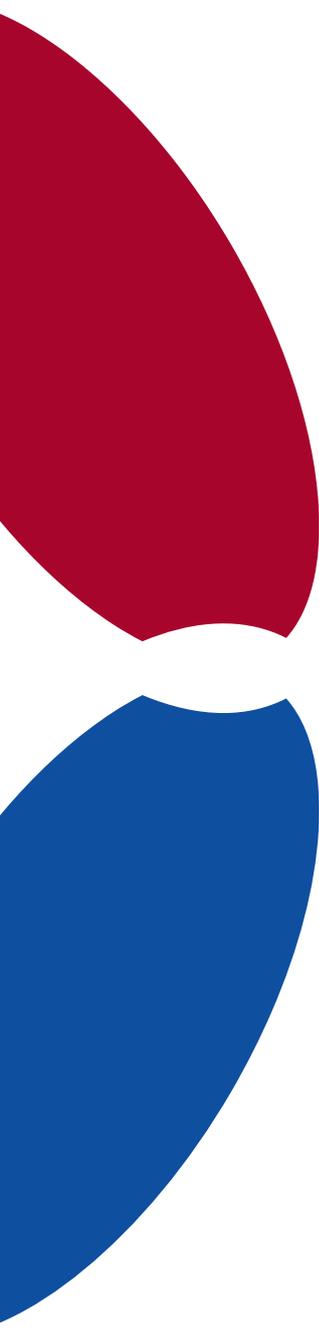
UKUPC is a collaboration of the six regional universities purchasing consortia; APUC, HEPCW, LUPC, NEUPC, NWUPC and SUPC, and the energy and catering commodity focussed consortia, TEC and TUCO.





ABOUT UKUPC

UKUPC is a partnership between eight UK purchasing consortia who created a formal alliance to foster collaborative procurement within Higher and Further Education. All eight consortia are not-for-profit entities and work together to share knowledge and best practice, supporting members across the sector and the wider procurement community. Learn more and access a range of resources at www.ukupc.ac.uk.



UKUPC MISSION

To leverage the benefits of collaborative procurement: working across the UK HE consortia community to enhance procurement within HE and across our other members; helping deliver savings and efficiencies; maximising member benefits; embedding responsible, ethical procurement and social value using a sustainable supply chain management approach.

VALUE

DELIVERED TO OUR MEMBERS

The eight UK consortia work jointly on procurement activities with the goal of achieving financial and operational efficiencies, as well as sharing best practice. This year, our members spent £1.92 billion through our framework agreements.

Highlights of 2022-23 include:



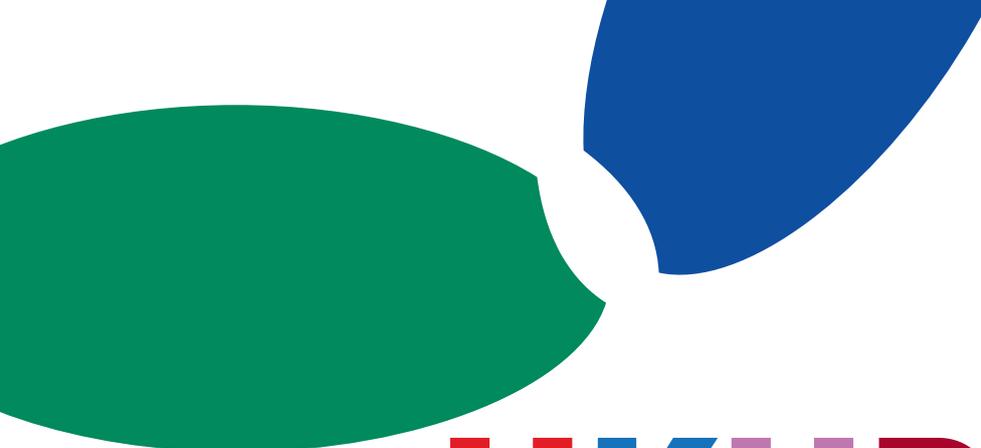
*Member spend data reported to UKUPC by framework agreement suppliers

**Savings calculated using the HEPA Benefits Methodology

MEMBER BENEFITS

In addition to a full range of goods and services framework agreements tendered in compliance with the public contracts regulations, UKUPC members benefit from:

- Access to a wide range of local and national commodity, category and special interest groups that provide market insight, the sharing of best practice and networking across the membership.
- Expert advice from the consortia category teams and leads.
- Provision of learning and development opportunities through:
 - Free regional conferences and national framework launch events to help members get the most of their membership and UKUPC frameworks.
 - A range of free online events covering trending topics.
 - Free and low-cost training through face-to-face or online courses and e-learning modules.
- The ability to help shape agreements by participating in national Tender Working Parties.
- A vast range of tools, resources and documents to help members make the best decisions and receive the support they need, including the quarterly Market Insight document, providing an in-depth overview of a wide range of category and market intelligence
- All institutions who are full members of English & Scottish UKUPC Consortia obtain affiliation to Electronics Watch as part of their membership.
- Additional services and solutions within each consortium based on the particular needs of consortium members.

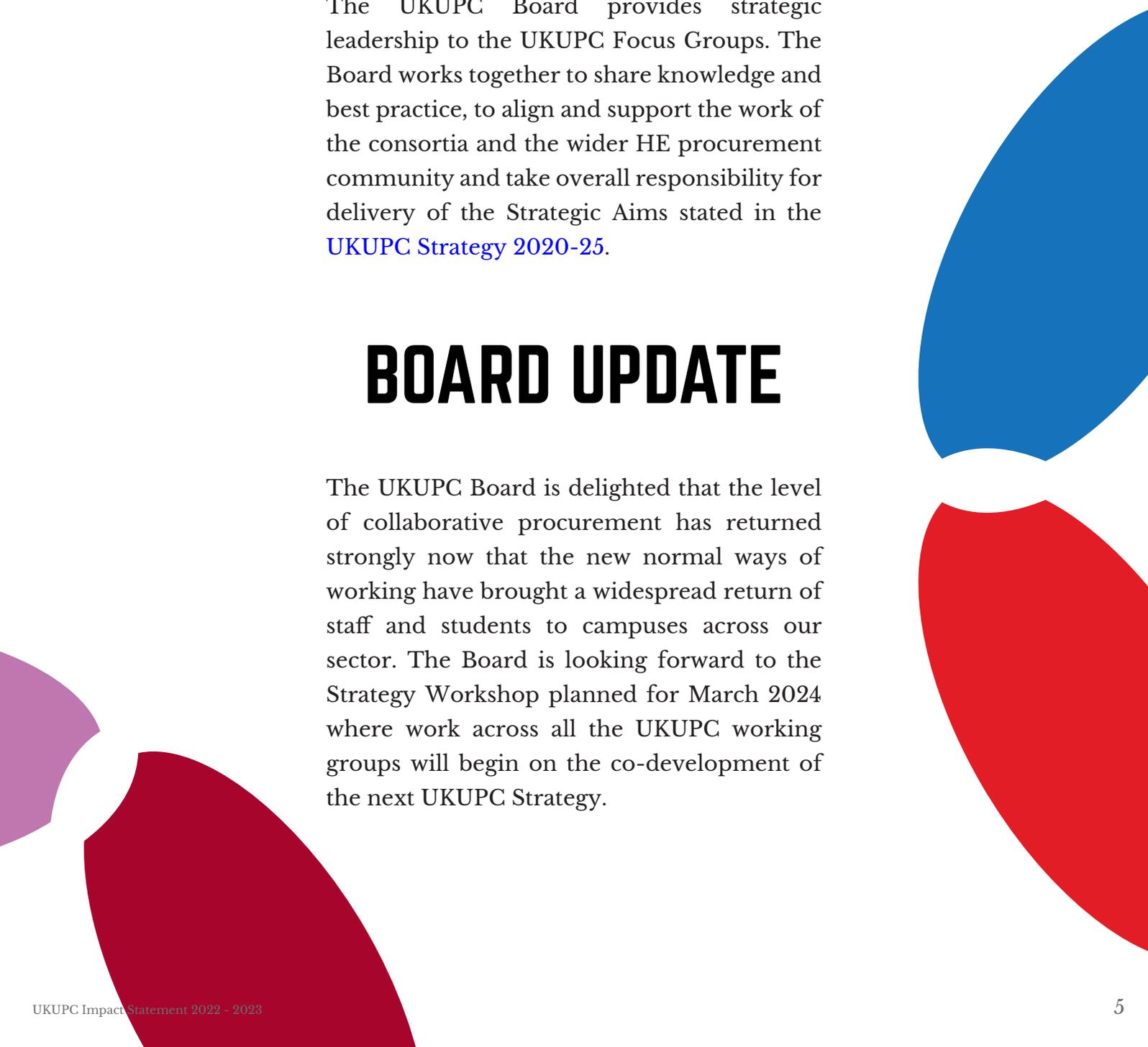


UKUPC BOARD

The UKUPC Board provides strategic leadership to the UKUPC Focus Groups. The Board works together to share knowledge and best practice, to align and support the work of the consortia and the wider HE procurement community and take overall responsibility for delivery of the Strategic Aims stated in the [UKUPC Strategy 2020-25](#).

BOARD UPDATE

The UKUPC Board is delighted that the level of collaborative procurement has returned strongly now that the new normal ways of working have brought a widespread return of staff and students to campuses across our sector. The Board is looking forward to the Strategy Workshop planned for March 2024 where work across all the UKUPC working groups will begin on the co-development of the next UKUPC Strategy.



JOINT CONTRACTING GROUP (JCG)

The JCG provides a strategic overview of the delivery of the national Joint Contracting Programme, working collaboratively and efficiently to minimise duplication and ensure that UKUPC has the right framework agreements in place at the right time.

KEY JCG ACTIVITIES IN 2022-23

QUARTERLY MARKET INSIGHT DOCUMENT

The quarterly market insight document, produced by expert category managers across UKUPC and distributed to its members, is in the second year of production. The document shares market knowledge and insight on what is happening in the supply chains of the core category and framework agreement areas. Much of the information is sourced directly from suppliers in contract management meetings. In addition to the main document, a summary with a high-level view of the key issues affecting each category is available. The documents continue to receive positive feedback from members and have proved vital during a period of continued turbulence.

INTRODUCTION OF RECORDING BT7 SAVINGS

With UKUPC framework agreements increasingly becoming mature agreements, it is proving harder to identify traditional BT1 direct price-based cash savings. The consortia's value in this area is largely in the contract management of UKUPC framework agreements. BT7 reporting now allows procurement teams to attribute a value to the price increase mitigation work involved in excellent contract management.

FOCUSSED REPORTS AND POPULATED FORWARD TWO-YEAR PLANS

UKUPC members are progressively being required to report on tender activity, with a need for increased transparency and information sharing. This will only grow with the implementation of the new Procurement Act in 2024. Throughout this year, the JCG has worked to develop its systems to collaborate more efficiently and effectively on the reporting of framework tender pipelines. This has included more active collaboration across consortia in the use of Hunter, the database used by UKUPC for managing all framework agreements. It allows for much better visibility and reporting of frameworks contracted, in progress and scheduled. Members now have increased access to the information in more detailed reports.

INCLUSION OF UKUPC RESPONSIBLE PROCUREMENT NETWORK AND UKUPC COMMS GROUP CHAIRS IN JCG MEETINGS

Further collaboration across the UKUPC groups helps to ensure that each area is aware of activity across UKUPC and any impact for members. This integration speeds up the sharing of information and reduced duplication, allowing the JCG to spend more time on value added activity.

FOCUSSED UKUPC JCG SHAREPOINT

The JCG sharepoint has been enhanced to make it easier for JCG members to find key collaborative documentation enabling greater efficiency and alignment.

RESPONSIBLE PROCUREMENT NETWORK (RPN)

The RPN reviews and promotes good responsible procurement practice across UKUPC's combined membership, aiding both consortia procurement professionals and members to embed best practice within their procurement operations.

Responsible procurement is critical to ensuring higher education remains a values-led and progressive sector that brings enduring benefits to its members, and every touchpoint of their supply chains. Here are some key highlights of our responsible procurement activities throughout 2022-23:

MODERN SLAVERY VIDEO SERIES

To mark annual [Anti-Slavery Week in October 2022](#), UKUPC's Responsible Procurement Network released five short videos to raise awareness of the fight to eradicate Modern Slavery from society. As a sector, we are committed towards these aims through our members' legal and moral obligations, but also exploring what else we can do to protect those most at risk – our students, workforce, and throughout our domestic and global supply chains.

DEVELOPING A RESPONSIBLE PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

UKUPC's RPN developed a Responsible Procurement Strategy for 2022, designed to:

“Embed responsible procurement across our services and support our members to establish it within their institutions, and play a major role in addressing climate change impacts related to our members' collaborative supply chains”.

This covers key areas such as:

- Applying sourcing strategies that maximise **Social Value**

- Influencing supplier compliance with the **Sustain Supply Chain Code of Conduct (SCCoC)**
- Promoting and monitoring **Human Rights** to eradicate slavery and forced labour throughout our supply chains
- Assisting our members institutions in addressing the **Climate and Ecological Emergency**.

UKUPC WEBINAR SERIES (DEC '22) WITH ELECTRONICS WATCH

In December 2022, UKUPC members joined us online to learn more about transparent purchasing and monitoring risks in their supply chains as part of the UKUPC webinar series. Hosted by Kate Sullivan (Affiliate Engagement Manager) and Peter Pawlicki (Director of Outreach and Education) – both from [Electronics Watch](#), the session helped our members to understand the steps they can take to monitor risks in their supply chains, and how best to demonstrate any actions taken. Electronics Watch is an independent organisation working to achieve respect for labour rights in the global electronics industry, through socially responsible public purchasing.

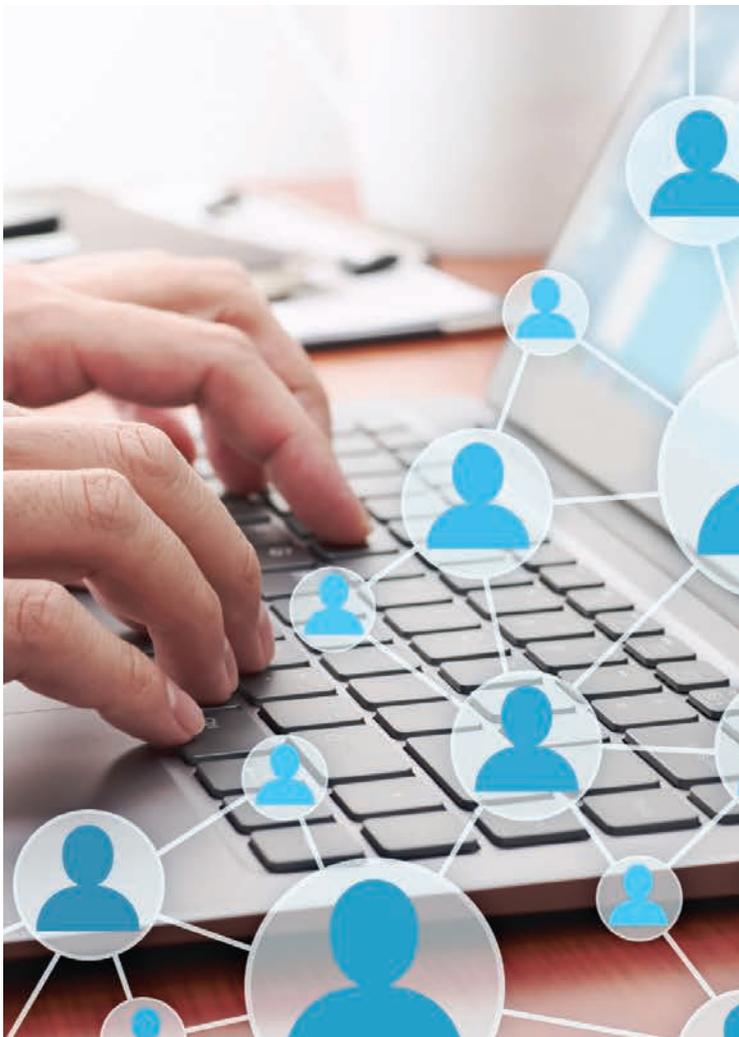
UKUPC WEBINAR SERIES JAN '23: DELIVERING NET ZERO IN SUPPLY CHAIN CONTRACTS

In January 2023, we explored [Net Zero in Supply Chain Contracts](#) in the next instalment of our UKUPC webinar series, this time hosted by NEUPC Category Manager Matt Johnson and Becky Annison Director of Engagement at the [Chancery Lane Project](#). The webinar discussed using contracts as a delivery mechanism for net zero, and how supply chains and procurement have a huge role to play in making this happen.

COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

The Communications Group promotes the benefits of collaborative procurement; provides a range of events to consortia members, both regionally and nationally, for networking and sharing best practice; and ensures members have the guidance and documentation they need to make the most out of their consortia membership.

Throughout the year, the Communications Group has kept members informed on newly available framework agreements, webinars that are available to UKUPC members, and circulated guidance and reports relating to strategic procurement. Having a UKUPC Comms representative attend each of the other UKUPC groups, Systems; JCG; and RPN; has ensured that relevant information is conveyed to members across the consortia in a timely and consistent manner.



WEBINARS FOR UKUPC MEMBERS IN 2022-23

UKUPC has continued to deliver its free webinar series covering prominent topics affecting professionals working in procurement. With each regional consortium being responsible for delivering one webinar in the year, these took place every other month. These webinars have enabled learning and engagement with colleagues nationally across the UKUPC procurement community.

Topics included:

- **Procurement Recruitment – the current landscape and CIPS salary insights* (LUPC)**
- **Electronics Watch: Transparent purchasing and monitoring risk in supply chains (NWUPC)**
- **Delivering Net Zero in Supply Chain Contracts* (NEUPC)**
- **Data Processor Due Diligence (APUC)**
- **Making Sense of the Updated SQ (Supplier Questionnaire)* (SUPC)**

*Recordings of these can be found on the [UKUPC website](#).

UKUPC STAND AT PROCUREX 2023

UKUPC hosted a stand for the first time at Procurex 2023, NEC Birmingham on 1 June 2023. It was great to engage with UKUPC members there.

UKUPC CONFERENCE 2023

Much of 2022-23 was spent planning, organising, and communicating the UKUPC Conference being held at the University of Exeter in September 2023.



INFORMATION SYSTEMS STRATEGY GROUP

The Information Systems Strategy Group improves the information systems used by the consortia and our member institutions to better understand and develop data-informed procurement plans.

The UKUPC Systems Group convenes quarterly to engage in thoughtful discussions about the future strategies that will shape UKUPC's upcoming projects. These strategic meetings serve as a crucial platform for evaluating and refining the path forward, with a particular emphasis in 2022/23 on reviewing the contracts database (HEContract) for Members. Areas also covered this year include Non-Pay Spend Analysis and Scope 3 Reporting.

The emphasis here is not only on the development of sophisticated reporting tools but also on ensuring that they seamlessly integrate with our existing systems. This integration ensures a unified approach, promoting consistency and efficiency across all levels, for all members.

As the group looks ahead, the emphasis remains on fostering collaboration, innovation, and strategic alignment.

