

**Together
Gloucestershire**



In association with



JOINT ACTION FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY

Briefing document
July 2023

MISSION STATEMENT

Our vision is to create a joined up solution for large private and public sector organisations to source ethical and reliable suppliers in Gloucestershire.

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INTRODUCTION

At a personal level, local sourcing - providing jobs for more local people, putting cash into the local economy, reducing the length of supply chains, and investing in the local economy, just makes total sense. However, when it comes to the reality of doing business locally, there are many challenges to achieving what seems to be a simple objective.

Cirencester and Cheltenham Chambers of Commerce in association with FSB have created 'Together Gloucestershire' to address the issues surrounding procurement, across all sectors, and sizes of businesses.

With some of the county's Top 100 companies and local Public sector procurement working within the group, we aim to understand the challenges, build a roadmap to knock down the barriers, and grow business and economy within the county.

Helping you to achieve your corporate goals

Aligns your business with the UN Sustainable Development Goals - United Nations Sustainable Development (8.3) - that are increasingly being adopted by investors and stakeholders as the gold standard for any business.

Organisational benefits

- Environment: Reduced carbon footprint in your supply chain
- Social value: Measurable social impact through your suppliers
- Local economy: Visible investment in the local community
- Operational: Optimised supplier management and sourcing
- Reputational: Aids staff retention and recruitment and improved reputation reporting to stakeholders

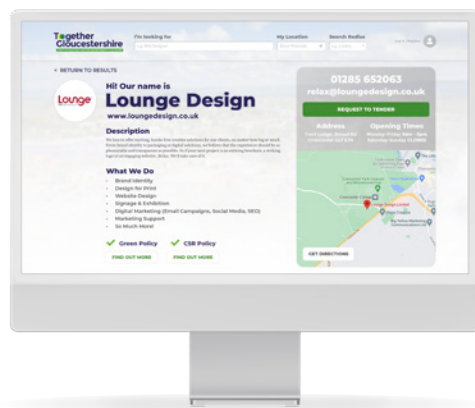
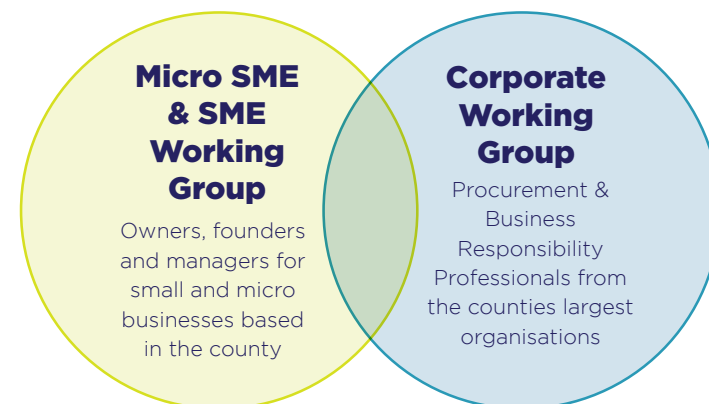
Who's involved so far



THE ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

Together Gloucestershire comprises two working groups and a Steering Group. The Steering Group's main objective is to provide direction for the project and offer support to the working groups. The two working groups, MSME/SME, and the Corporate-Public sector group, work together to identify challenges and implement effective solutions.

The fundamental philosophy behind Together Gloucestershire is active member engagement and involvement. We encourage all members to actively participate and contribute to the group's endeavors.



DELIVERABLES

The ultimate goal of the group is to increase the localised spend...we aim to do this by making doing business locally, easier. Specific tools that we are putting in place to enable this include;

Ethical business pledge – MSMEs signing up to how they run their business, making sure the it aligns with corporate and public sector best practice.

Procurement database – Communication is key, bringing willing buyers and wiling sellers together in one place, with transparency and easy communications.

Pre-Tender document and training – Supporting local MSMEs with how to successfully navigate a tender process or RFP while making the process easier for the tender organisation.

THE BENEFITS

There are many challenges to running a business in the current economic climate. Whilst enhancing ESG creds may be seen as a luxury, it won't be long until not having those creds will stop you from doing business. In some areas the public sectors may be leading the charge, with 10% or more of the scoring for supplier selection being attributed to ESG. However, the drivers are strong:

- Shortening and making more stable/flexible supply chains
- Investing in the local community
- Growing support for your business within the local community
- Differentiating yourself from the competition in an area that is growing in significance
- Giving your employees a strong bond to the business, aiding retention and recruitment

Ethical business
pledge launch

Westminster
briefing

Procurement
database launch

Tendering
project launch

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Whether you are a MSME or a larger organisation in the public or private sector, please email hello@togethergloucestershire.co.uk in the first instance to find out more about how to get involved.

contact: hello@togethergloucestershire.co.uk
visit: togethergloucestershire.co.uk

This project is an initiative by the following organisations that are funded solely by their members to promote better business for the area, please support them when possible.

