# SEWF 2017 Procurement Policy

The Ākina vision is for a sustainable prosperous and inclusive world. In support of this vision, the Social Enterprise World Forum 2017 (SEWF) was established, and serves four high-level objectives:

A. Bring a high-level international event (and delegates) to Christchurch and New Zealand

B. Connect the emerging New Zealand social enterprise community with best international practice and develop linkages at all levels - policy, practice, investment, research and education

C. Deliver a world-class event that supports and showcases NZ's social enterprise sector, community resilience, and culture to the world

D. Provide a focus for NZ's emerging social enterprise sector, and a legacy / roadmap for the sector's longer term growth and development

The SEWF working groups have taken these objectives as guiding principles, and applied them to a policy for choosing providers and products to serve SEWF. We recognise ISO 26000 (http://www.iso.org/iso/home/standards/iso26000.htm)  as a reference document that provides guidance for integration of social responsibility in our procurement.

Community Benefit Emphasis

In the delivery of SEWF 2017, the working groups are aspiring to spend 80% or more of the total budget in support of community benefits. This means that when selecting possible providers or partners, cost is not necessarily the primary consideration. In all of our procurement, we seek to deliver this community benefit:

*"Connect the New Zealand Social Enterprise community and upscale its ability to reliably deliver goods and services to more customers, more often."*

We wish to enable our providers to grow their positive impacts by growing their business. We expect providers and partners to work with each other wherever possible to this end. By the very nature of social enterprises, we expect the ultimate outcomes will accrue in the form of social, environmental, and economic benefits for the community.

We also encourage our providers to actively strive for improvements in their own work, including greater social and environmental responsibility through their operational practices and supply chains, drawing on supporting frameworks where possible, and asking Ākina and others for help as needed.

Providers

Related to our Community Benefit Emphasis, we strive to work with providers that enable the most positive social and environmental impacts. Each contract will contain specific service and quality metrics, and where practical, we will support potential providers and partners to increase their ranking on relevant these metrics.

Our priority ranking for preferred providers and partners is:

A. Social Enterprises (as per the Ākina definition) (http://akina.org.nz/about/our-story/what-is-social-enterprise/)
B. Charitable Trusts registered with Charities Services Ngā Rātonga Kaupapa Atawhai
C. Certified B Corporations
D. Companies owned and operated by local people in Canterbury, with an emphasis on women or people from underrepresented populations
E. Companies who pro-actively contribute to the fundamental challenges of the communities they operate in.

If, as expected, multiple social enterprises apply for our contracts, we will differentiate between them with reference to our four high-level objectives and on the basis of the positive impacts they can deliver to the local community and environment.

Products

We select products from providers that meet the above ranking. We look for durable, long-lasting products that enable the most positive social and environmental impacts. Prior to purchasing a product we will also consider:

1. Do we really need this?
2. Can we reduce our need for this?
3. Are there re-used or recycled alternatives?
4. Are there alternatives that promote sustainable design?
5. Can we leverage our purchase to enable greater impact?
6. Can we showcase new modes of products and services with greater positive impact?