



## The Royal College of Physicians

From 4 January 2021 to 19 March 2021

As the first royal college to receive the Carbon Trust Standard and the ISO14004 standard for Environmental management systems certification, the Royal College of Physicians (RCP) is leading the way. The accreditations were earned as a result of the College achieving a 30% reduction in its total carbon footprint over the past three years, as well as switching its electricity provision entirely to 100% renewable energy.

The RCP's new home at The Spine in Liverpool is on track to be one of the "healthiest buildings in the UK," designed to consider sustainability and to meet the internationally renowned WELL standard to increase human health and wellbeing. The RCP has already embedded sustainability throughout their organisation and having spent three months with them, I could see they definitely have the right culture and ethos in place. This made it easy for me, as LUPC's Responsible Procurement Lead, to support them in the following ways:

- I helped RCP get the most out of their Electronics Watch affiliation by showing them how to make the best use of the Public Buyer Toolkit. This toolkit helps members communicate with suppliers and identify the factory locations where their goods are being assembled. With this information, links were established between the RCP and its ICT suppliers. The RCP made use of the toolkit as they access the National Desktop and Notebook framework agreement which contains Electronics Watch contract conditions.
- I attended meetings and assisted with the development of communications for the Print Managed Service contract, where sustainability was an important criterion to evaluate suppliers. I worked with the chosen supplier to ensure they included sustainability initiatives and principles in their contract and fed this information into the Business Case. The new supplier will introduce more efficient and environmentally friendly technology, helping RCP reduce their electricity consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, enabling them to make savings.
- I assisted the team with the ISO 20400 self-assessment and guided the team on how to start the process towards the ISO assessment.
- I reviewed the RCP's modern slavery statement to make sure it contains the mandatory information and helped create new content to reflect their current activity in this area.
- I audited some of the RCP's procurement-related documents like their sustainable procurement policy, the supplier's questionnaire and the ITT template to ensure they include Responsible Procurement principles.
- I attended the Environmental Steering Group, where different areas of the college provide updates on their activities, and I supported the Procurement team with their Sustainability updates.



*Marisol joined our Procurement team in early 2021 as part of a placement from the LUPC. She has a wealth of knowledge and experience in Sustainable Procurement and was a great addition to the team and really helped us to focus on the further improvements we could make to our policies, strategy and templates as well as our Modern Slavery statement.*

*Marisol assisted with contract discussions, internal and external meetings and communications and has set us on the right path to making sure we achieve ISO20400 status.*

*She is passionate about what she does and it really shines through, we only wish she could have stayed longer!*

**Janita Vara, Head of Procurement at the RCP.**

