



Guidance on sustainability for inclusion in report template

The SSSC, although a relatively small organisation, has made a commitment to reduce our environmental impact and do whatever we can to promote the wider sustainability agenda wherever possible.

To promote sustainability in our organisational activities, we must actively consider the sustainability impact of our activities and proposals when we report to Management Teams, Committees or Council. This means considering the social, economic and environmental impact of your report content.

It is likely that the majority of sustainability benefits reported will be social benefits where there is a wider community benefit to developing and supporting the social services workforce. Wider benefit can also come through promoting increased awareness in the sector, leading to changes in behaviour.

In some cases, there will be wider sustainability issues for consideration. Although not intended to be an exhaustive list, the following provides a description of the sustainability elements you may consider for inclusion in your report, where appropriate:

Environmental
Considerations



- Will there be any impact, positive or negative, on carbon and energy consumption? For example, savings in gas, water or electricity usage, increased awareness of environmental issues, proposed increase or decrease in carbon emissions associated with travel, environmental impact of print and distribution methods.
- Does your report include developments which use materials, either within products or those used within service delivery, derived from potentially vulnerable ecosystems, where biodiversity is at risk?
- In the delivery of a service, is there a risk that ecosystems could be damaged? Is there an opportunity to enhance biodiversity in relation to services delivered?

Social
Considerations



- Are there potential positive or negative impacts on communities?
- Are there potential opportunities to provide wider social benefits through encouragement of community initiatives and regeneration of disadvantaged communities?
- Will community consultation be required for the proposal?

Employment
Opportunities

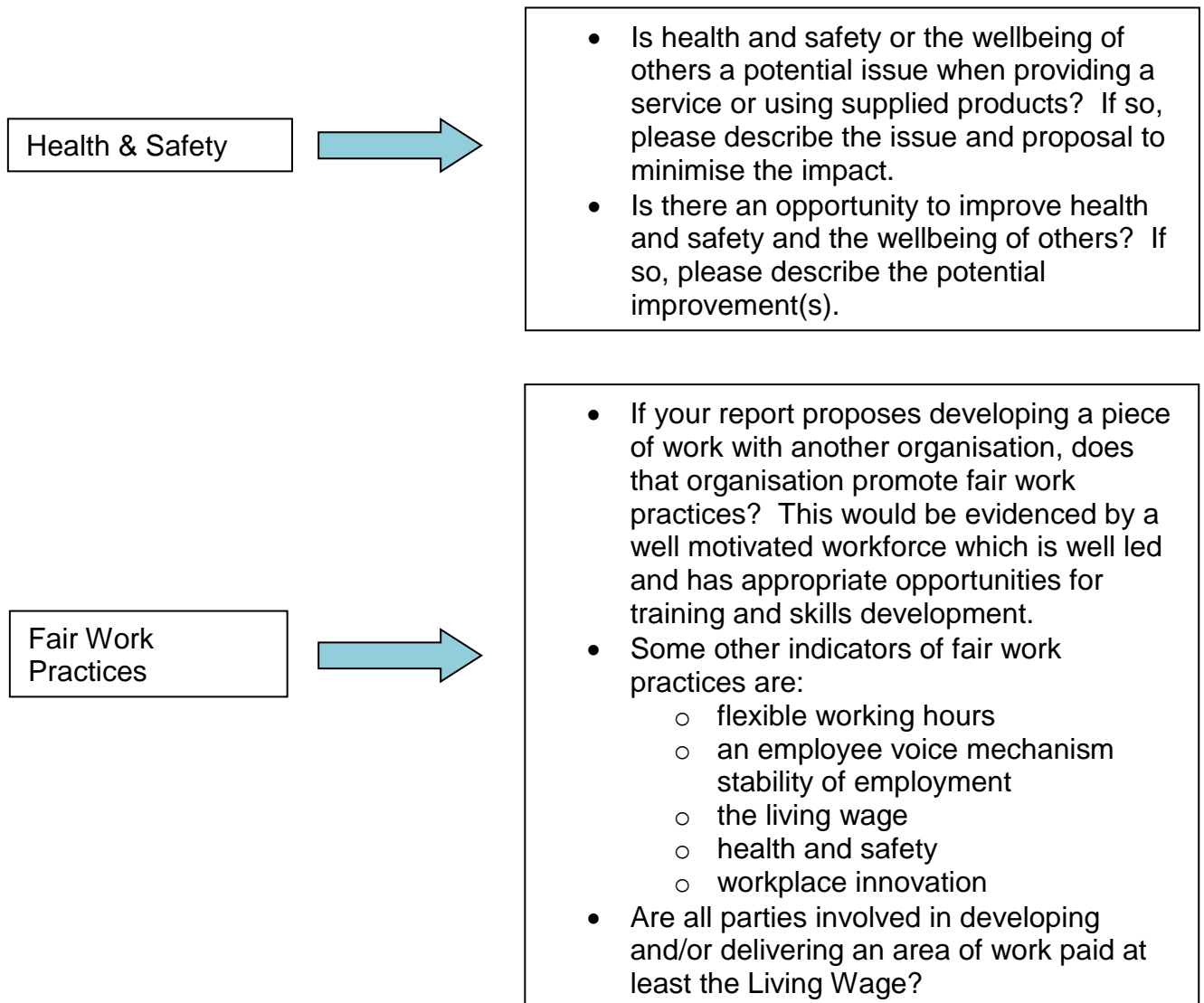


- Are there opportunities to generate employment and training opportunities (particularly for priority groups), develop trade skills in potential suppliers' existing workforce and drive equal opportunities recruitment procedures?
- Is there an opportunity for SMEs, social enterprises, black and ethnic minority enterprises and disabled-owned businesses or supported business organisations to be involved in co-design or delivery of the service or related service, where they have appropriate skills

Equality & Human
Rights



- Could this report have a negative impact on people with a protected characteristic or are there potential opportunities to promote equality?
- Are there potential risks regarding human rights, working conditions and labour standards within the supply chain related to the delivery of a related service or product?
- Are there potential opportunities to mitigate human rights risks, improve working conditions and labour standards by working with the market?
- Are there concerns about using minerals within products procured that are mined in areas of human rights abuses and/or are there opportunities to make sure products are verified as conflict free.



The completion of the sustainability section of the report should be brief and concise, while ensuring you highlight any sustainability issues. It is anticipated that this will be covered in one or two paragraphs, however, there may be occasions where a fuller narrative is required.

If there are no sustainability issues then please add 'there are no direct sustainability implications arising from this report'.