

## "Building a more responsible planet in partnership"

Dear Framework Agreement Supplier,

The University and College sectors in Scotland have been at the forefront of responsible and ethical procurement collaboration for many years. Collaboration has yielded significant benefits and positive outcomes for the sectors and for those throughout and impacted by our supply chains across the World.

Due to the very high ethical standards of our Member Universities and Colleges, and of APUC itself, the impact of the social, ethical and environmental supply chain footprint is something that we as a sector take very seriously. These high expectations are shared by all our key stakeholders including our student population and other wider research, governmental and business stakeholders.

In my role as CEO at APUC, I must ensure that our supplier community understand the urgency of the key responsible / sustainable procurement impact areas and share our commitment to those. A key facet in our sustainability agenda is to ensure transparency around our supplier community and their subsuppliers' responsible business performance.

APUC has chosen EcoVadis, a global CSR rating company based on international standards, to conduct individual sustainability performance assessments across all relevant areas of our supplier / supply chain community.

I am personally requesting you therefore to register on the EcoVadis platform and embrace undertaking this global standard assessment. You will receive a sustainability scorecard from EcoVadis with detailed insights into your strengths along with opportunities for improvement. Beyond APUC and the Scottish University and Colleges sectors, as this platform is used by a vast range of the Buyer community across a wide range of sectors, you will find this single undertaking can have wide ranging positive impacts for your business, with it presenting enhanced marketing opportunities for your business when dealing with other ethically managed clients and potential clients. Your regular APUC procurement contact, or any member of APUC's Responsible Procurement Team, is available to answer any questions pertaining to our strategy and how it impacts you.

Thank you in advance for investing your time in completing this assessment and for joining this strategic initiative for a more sustainable future.

Best Regards,

Angus Warren Chief Executive