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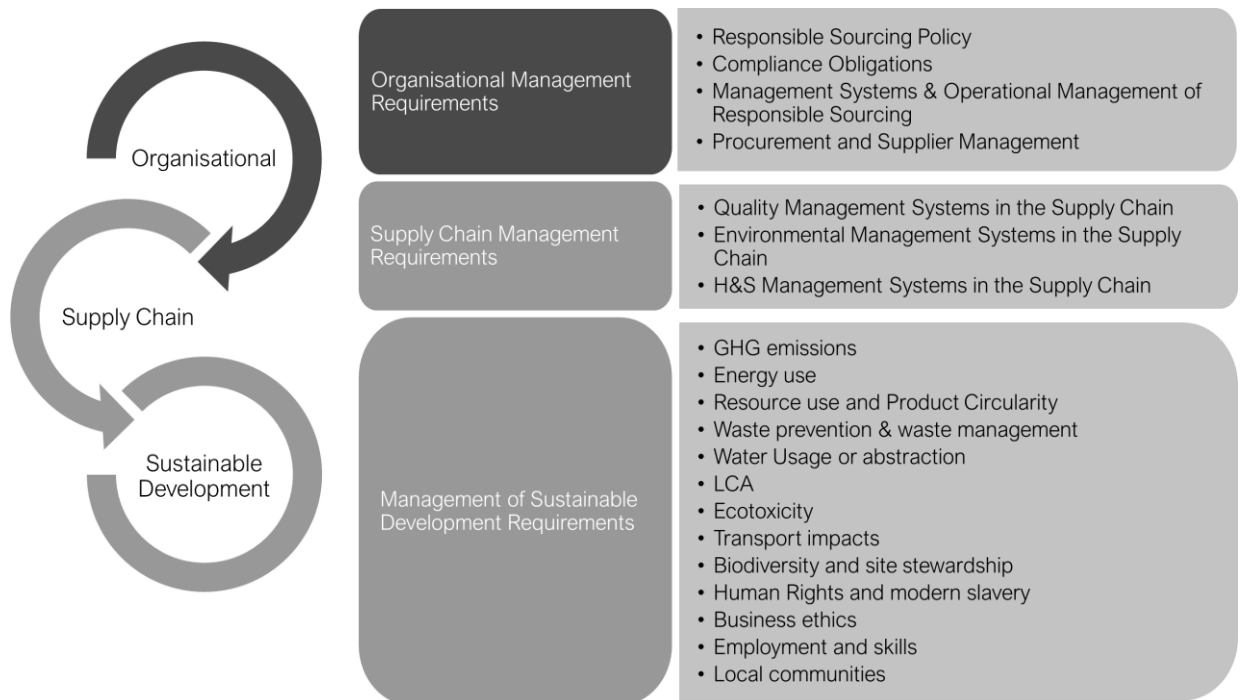
BES 6001 V4.0 – Summary of Changes

BRE have reviewed and updated the BES 6001 Framework Standard for Responsible Sourcing.

A draft version of version 4.0 of BES 6001 was put out for public consultation from 08 November 2021 to 31 January 2022. Once this feedback had been reviewed, a second draft was put out for consultation from 19 May 2022 to 13 June 2022.

Revisions have been made to the standard as and where necessary, following the public consultations.

Version 4.0 Structure and Criteria (like version 3.2 – we continue to separate the requirements into the following 3 sections:





Editorial Changes

The definitions in section 2 have been updated in line with current versions of standards.

The Principles of Responsible Sourcing have been moved from Section 4 to Section 3 to bring them to the front of the standard ahead of the criteria where they are referenced.

Scoring Changes

Compulsory criteria are no longer awarded credits. Credits are allocated to the voluntary elements of the requirements. Unless stated otherwise, voluntary elements of the requirements are sequential.

However, where it is stated in the description of the requirement that the voluntary elements are non-sequential, the points available within these sections can be awarded in isolation once the compulsory element is achieved.

Scoring thresholds have also been updated as a result of the introduction of non-scoring compulsory criteria and the introduction of new criteria. The scoring continues to be found in section 5 of the standard.

Whilst the thresholds have changed the overall scoring of pass/Good/Very good/Excellent has been maintained.

Sectional Changes

4.2 Organisational Management Requirements

4.2.1 Responsible Sourcing Policy

Policy requirements are unchanged however further detail has been added for the policy's review requirements and for effective communication of the policy.

4.2.2 Compliance Obligations

Section name changed from 'Legal Compliance' to 'Compliance Obligations' for consistency with ISO 14001 & ISO 45001. Requirements remain unchanged; however, wording has been amended for clarity.

4.2.3 Management Systems & Operational Management of Responsible Sourcing

Scope expanded from reviewing and organisation's QMS and ISO 9001 to include their EMS, HSMS and ISO 14001 & ISO 45001 also. Equivalent requirements for SMEs have also been included.

4.2.4 Procurement and Supplier Management

Compulsory requirements largely unchanged. We have clarified that the supplier approval process should review a supplier's commitment to the principles of RS.

Higher requirements have been added which review procurement processes and their alignment with ISO 20400, their supplier code of conduct, their supply chain engagement focusing on principles of RS and supply chain enviro/social risk assessment.

4.3 Supply Chain Management

Traceability requirements continue to include tracing constituent materials to suppliers responsible for:

- The extraction of raw materials; or
- The provision of recycled materials; or
- The production of by-products; or
- The processing of commodity traded materials

However, % thresholds for the credits have changed from 60/75/90% to 70/80/90%.

This section also only now focuses on supply chain management systems as the organisation's management systems are reviewed in 4.2.3.

Like 4.2.3, equivalent schemes are accepted (SME equivalents also).

4.4 Sustainable Development

General requirements for policies, stakeholder reporting and external verification remain largely unchanged and continue to be explained at the beginning of section 4.4.

4.4.1 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Compulsory requirements unchanged however the wording has been amended for clarity.

Higher requirements continue to include stakeholder reporting and verification.

Additional requirements added to award those who also identify their scope 3 emission sources, monitor their scope 3 emissions, and have set targets to achieve net zero.

4.4.2 Energy Use

Previous criteria now makeup the compulsory.

Higher requirements added which include targets for reduction, stakeholders reporting and verification.

Also included, is a credit for implementing an action plan to reduce use of fossil fuel and increase use of renewable energy.

4.4.3 Resource Use and Product Circularity

Compulsory requirements now require a policy for the 'efficient use of constituent materials and for the assessment of its product circularly'.

Higher requirements amended. Supply chain engagement option removed (as would be included in the higher credits in 4.2.4 now) and we have instead included the following options:

- Declaration of recycled content
- A product development approach to design product for a circular economy

Reporting requirement remains. An additional credit included for verification of resource use and product circularity information seen in 4.4.3.2.

4.4.4 Waste Prevention and Waste Management

Compulsory requirements unchanged.

Higher requirements are similar however we have separated out the requirements for waste reduction targets and the requirements for stakeholder reporting. Target credit now requires a target for reduction of waste relative to output and a target for the diversion of waste from landfill.

Additional credit removed due to repetition. Verification credit remains.

4.4.5 Water Usage or Abstraction

Compulsory requirements amended to focus on the organisation's water usage (instead of focusing specifically on water used in their operations – for those that do not use water in their manufacturing process). We have also clarified that the organisation shall quantify the intensity of their water usage. Higher requirements now included credit for water reduction targets OR the use of sustainable water sources.

Additional credit removed as supply chain engagement included in the higher credits in 4.2.4.

Reporting and verification credits remain.

4.4.6 Life Cycle Assessment

Credit for participation in LCA study removed. We have clarified that the EPD need to be publicly available on the EPD scheme operator's website and the organisations website.

4.4.7 Ecotoxicity

Requirements unchanged however they are now compulsory.

4.4.8 Transport Impacts

The compulsory requirements have been amended/re-worded to clarify requirements. Social impacts must also now be identified/monitored.

Higher requirements now include credits for target setting and stakeholders reporting. Because of this, the supplementary credit has been removed.

Transport of constituent materials credit has also been split into 2 separate credits:

- 1 for extending scope of policies and metrics to include impacts of transport of constituent materials
- 1 for reporting to stakeholders on the impacts of transport of constituent materials

4.4.9 Biodiversity & Site Stewardship

This is a new section.

Compulsory credit is like other clauses in 4.4 – a company policy with commitment to manage risks and potential impacts on biodiversity.

Higher credits are available for those with a biodiversity action plan in place to protect and enhance biodiversity (including controls to minimise impact / remediation measures). Equivalent evidence accepted for organisations that cannot implement a meaningful plan for the site under assessment. 2nd higher requirement includes reporting on demonstratable actions to stakeholders.

4.4.10 Human Rights and Modern Slavery

This is a new section.

Compulsory credit requires a policy to respect human rights and protect workers (in line with Guiding Principle 16 of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights).

Higher requirements include having a due diligence and documented risk assessment to identify and act upon potential human right risks.

2nd higher requirement includes Modern Slavery Statement Requirement. We have removed reference to the Modern Slavery Act 2015, so it is applicable to all.

4.4.11 Business Ethics

Previous 1st credit criteria now makeup the compulsory. Remains largely unchanged however a grievance process is also required.

Modern Slavery requirement moved to section 4.4.10.

4.4.12 Employment and Skills

Compulsory requirements are similar however we have expanded the training requirements to include a requirement for induction programmes to include health and safety, human rights, sustainability, corporate responsibility, and business ethics. The organisation also must provide evidence of appropriate HR practices for recruitment, contract, fair wages & working hours.

We have also separated out the higher requirements. There are now 3 separate higher requirements for:

- stakeholder reporting
- external verification
- a policy for enhancing diversity and inclusivity & carrying out regular reviews of performance.

4.4.13 Local Communities

Compulsory requirements are similar however we have added that the organisation must regularly review their performance in term of community liaison activities. complaints etc (this was previously part of the higher requirements).

Similar to 4.4.12, we have also separated out the higher requirements. There are now 3 separate higher requirements for:

- stakeholder reporting
- external verification
- a policy for local sourcing of product and services where appropriate and practical.