academiesfinance

Social Value Statement

Academies Finance (Trading Name of RNS Business Services Ltd)

Social Value Commitment

Academies Finance is committed to delivering measurable social value throughout the life of this contract in accordance with the Government's Social Value Model (PPN 002).

As a specialist public sector consultancy serving education and not-for-profit organisations, we are uniquely positioned to support skills development, improve organisational capability, reduce environmental impact and promote equal opportunity across the communities in which we operate.

Our social value delivery plan focuses on four priority outcomes aligned to the Social Value Model.

MAC2.1: Creating New Businesses, New Jobs and New Skills

Commitment

Academies Finance will invest in developing skills and capability across the education and public sectors through structured knowledge transfer, mentoring and professional development activities.

Activities

- Deliver pro bono skills workshops covering finance, governance, risk management and compliance.
- Provide mentoring to aspiring School Business Professionals, Finance Managers and CFOs.
- Support work experience, internship and graduate opportunities where appropriate.
- Offer continuing professional development (CPD) sessions to schools, academy trusts and public sector organisations.

Contract KPIs

Commitment	Annual Target
Free professional development webinars	12
Mentoring hours	100 hours
Pro bono specialist consultancy support	50 hours
Technical guidance sessions delivered	12

Social Value Outcome

- Increased workforce capability.
- Improved leadership and financial skills.
- Enhanced organisational resilience within public sector organisations.

MAC2.2: Increasing Supply Chain Resilience and Capacity

Commitment

Academies Finance will actively engage and utilise SMEs and specialist consultants to support delivery where appropriate.

Activities

- Maintain and utilise local SME suppliers.
- Promote opportunities for specialist independent consultants.
- Encourage fair payment practices.
- Support knowledge-sharing within supplier networks.

Contract KPIs

Commitment	Annual Target
SME engagement review	Annual
SME supplier utilisation	Maintained where practicable
Supplier payment times	Within agreed contractual terms
Supplier engagement sessions	Minimum 2 annually

Social Value Outcome

- Increased SME participation.
- Stronger local economic activity.
- Improved supplier sustainability.

TACKLING ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

Equal Access to Skills and Opportunity

Commitment

Academies Finance will help improve access to professional development opportunities regardless of background or location.

Activities

- Deliver online training and webinars accessible nationally.
- Provide mentoring opportunities to individuals from under-represented groups.
- Promote flexible working opportunities within the organisation.
- Remove unnecessary barriers to accessing professional development.

Contract KPIs

Commitment	Annual Target
Accessible online learning sessions	12
Mentoring support for under-represented groups	25 hours
Flexible working availability	100% of roles where operationally feasible
Equality review	Annual

Social Value Outcome

- Reduced barriers to progression.
- Increased access to development opportunities.
- Improved workforce participation.

NGO2: Equal Opportunity

Commitment

Academies Finance is committed to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion throughout recruitment, employment and service delivery.

Activities

- Operate non-discriminatory recruitment practices.
- Promote inclusive leadership.
- Provide equal access to training and development.
- Ensure all client-facing materials are accessible where practical.
- Monitor equality and diversity considerations within service delivery.

Contract KPIs

Commitment	Annual Target
Equality and diversity review	Annual
Mandatory equality awareness briefing	Annual
Accessibility review of standard materials	Annual
Staff development opportunities	Available to all personnel

Social Value Outcome

- Improved inclusion.
- Increased workplace equity.
- Accessible services for stakeholders.

Fighting Climate Change

ENV1 and ENV2

Commitment

Academies Finance will minimise environmental impact and support the UK's Net Zero ambitions through sustainable consultancy delivery.

Activities

- Operate a digital-first service model.

- Undertake virtual meetings as the default engagement approach.
- Reduce unnecessary travel.
- Prioritise public transport where travel is required.
- Maintain and review a Carbon Reduction Plan.
- Reduce paper consumption through electronic document management.

Contract KPIs

Commitment	Annual Target
Virtual client meetings	Minimum 80%
Paperless documentation	Default approach
Carbon Reduction Plan review	Annual
Travel reduction monitoring	Quarterly

Social Value Outcome

- Reduced carbon emissions.
- Reduced travel impacts.
- Improved environmental performance.

Measurement, Governance and Reporting

Delivery of social value commitments will be overseen by the Director of Academies Finance.

Performance will be:

- Monitored quarterly.
- Reported annually.
- Reviewed as part of contract governance arrangements.
- Supported by evidence-based KPI reporting.

Where required by the Authority, Academies Finance will provide performance information demonstrating delivery against agreed social value commitments and outcomes.

Added Value Commitment

In addition to contract delivery, Academies Finance will provide:

- **50 hours per annum of pro bono educational finance and governance support.**
- **100 hours per annum of mentoring and skills development support.**
- **12 free professional development webinars per annum.**
- **A digital-first service model supporting reduction in travel-related carbon emissions.**
- **Structured support for SME engagement and professional knowledge sharing.**

Declaration

Academies Finance is committed to delivering meaningful, measurable and reportable social value outcomes that align with the Government Social Value Model and create lasting benefits for public sector organisations, communities and the environment.

Signed: Rose Nelson FFA FAIA
Position: Director
Date:01 November 2026