

# Case Study: Demonstrating the Value and Contribution of Procurement Activity at the University of Bath

## Who We Worked With

University of Bath, a leading UK university with an international reputation for teaching and research excellence.

## The Situation

Like many Higher Education institutions, the University of Bath faces significant external world challenges. The procurement team and their work contribute to solving bigger picture issues, such as financial and sustainability issues. SUPC membership has been vital in helping them play and evidence their part.

## What Happened

Collaborative procurement is a valuable approach to delivering cashable and non-cashable savings, with savings on spend through SUPC frameworks increased to 15% this year. The team has used a range

of compliant frameworks, knowing that they are sector-specific and so meet their Higher Education requirements. Marketing premium returns have covered the consortium membership subscription, and is one of the unique benefits of SUPC membership.

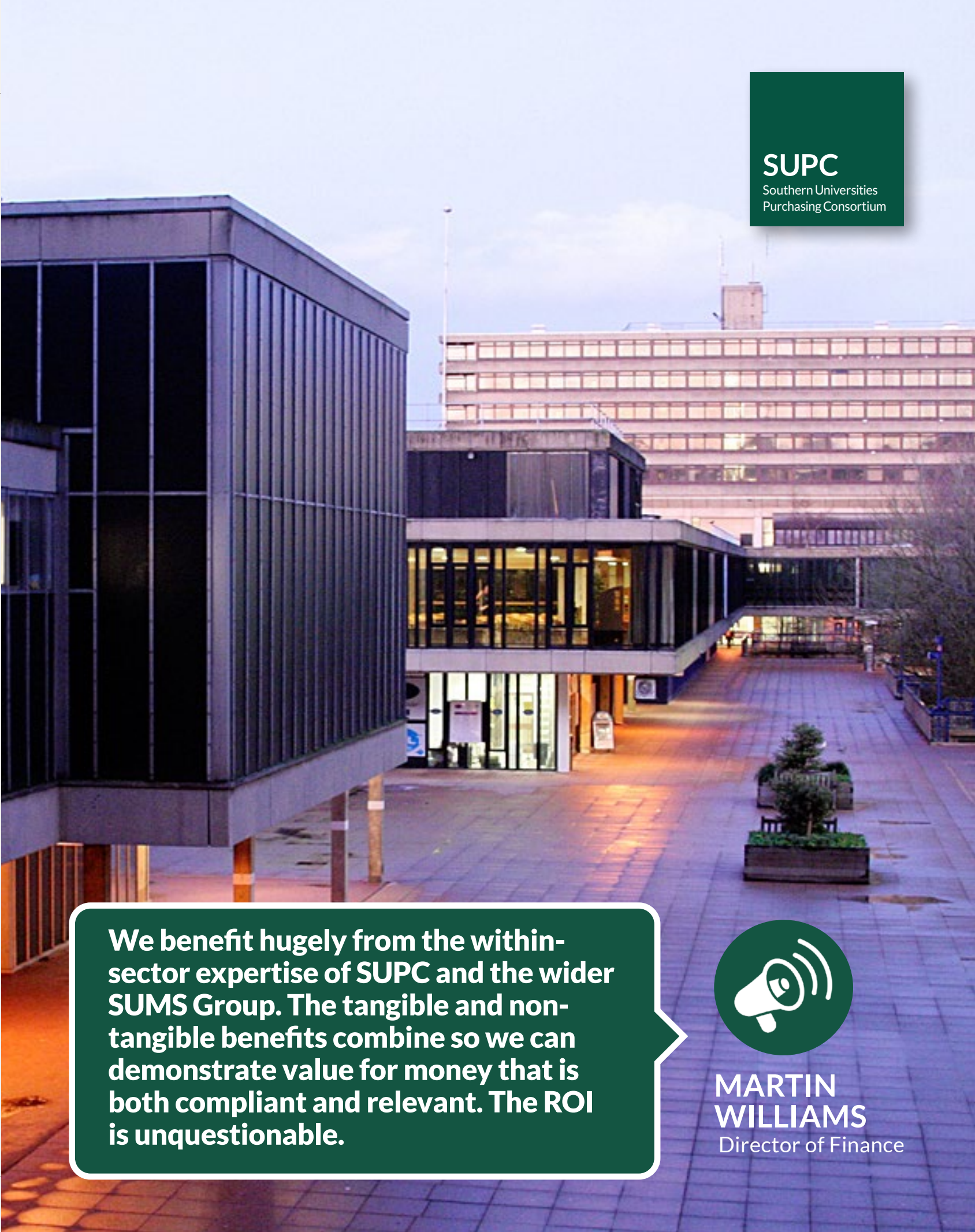
The team has used the responsible procurement tools and webinars to help themselves and non-procurement colleagues. For example:

- > SUPC’s guidance was helpful in developing their modern slavery statement.
- > Attending a webinar about carbon reduction enabled Tony Brett, Head of Procurement, to hear from expert speakers and other institutions. This shaped his thinking and informed internal discussions about the University’s plan.

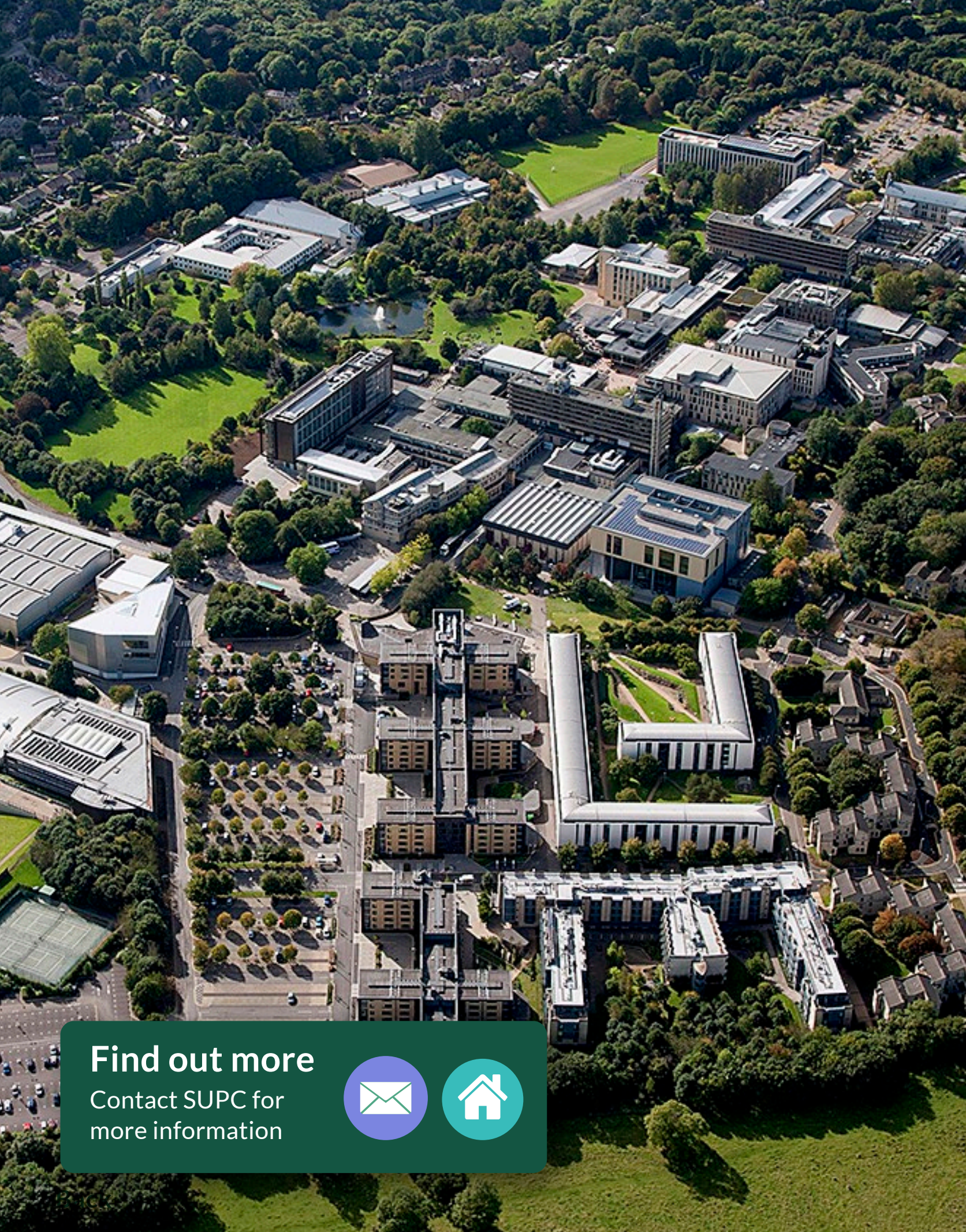
**We benefit hugely from the within-sector expertise of SUPC and the wider SUMS Group. The tangible and non-tangible benefits combine so we can demonstrate value for money that is both compliant and relevant. The ROI is unquestionable.**



**MARTIN WILLIAMS**  
Director of Finance







Over the last couple of years, the team needed to review risk in their supply chain, firstly in response to Brexit and then as a result of the covid pandemic. As they were confident in SUPC's work to review framework suppliers, they were able to focus on their suppliers in other areas.

### The Difference it Made

The reassurance of compliant frameworks has saved money and time, with the University's team able to focus their resource on factors

specific to their institution. This has helped demonstrate value for money to internal finance and audit committees.

Contribution to wider University initiatives has also been valuable. Using expertise and guidance from SUPC in areas ranging from modern slavery to carbon reduction has helped the University move towards its own targets and acknowledge the importance of procurement activity in the culture of the institution.



**TONY BRETT**  
Head of Procurement

**Reviewing risk within our supply chain has made us more resilient as an institution. The role of the supplier is now acknowledged as an important aspect of business continuity. SUPC's knowledge and reassurance in this area was a key element of our approach.**

**Find out more**

Contact SUPC for  
more information

