

top companies supplying the government using tax haven.

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I think [this Early Day Motion in Parliament](#) deserves wide support, and would chime with many people's sense of what is necessary in public procurement.

It baffles me why such policies do not exist already:

ETHICAL CONSUMER AND USE OF TAX HAVENS BY COMPANIES OPERATING PUBLIC SERVICES

- * Session: 2010-12
- * Date tabled: 08.11.2011
- * Primary sponsor: [Lucas, Caroline](#)
- * Sponsors:
 - * [Edwards, Jonathan](#)
 - * [George, Andrew](#)
 - * [Meale, Alan](#)
 - * [Sanders, Adrian](#)
 - * [Weir, Mike](#)

That this House congratulates Ethical Consumer for its work exposing the poor ethical record of the companies being awarded contracts to run our public services; is deeply concerned that 13 of the 20 companies surveyed avoid tax through the use of tax havens; believes that the huge scale of Government procurement, at around 200 billion a year, has the potential to have a major positive impact on the market for ethical goods and services; notes that whilst the Government has guidelines for reducing its environmental impact through operations and procurement, no such equivalent guidelines exist for wider ethical concerns; and calls on the Government to bring

forward a set of legally binding procurement rules that subject companies delivering and bidding for the delivery of public service contracts to high ethical, environmental and anti-tax avoidance standards as measured against the criteria developed by Ethical Consumer.