

Procurement and Efficiency Bulletin

July 2009



East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership

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Free Events

Purchasing & Prepaid Cards Workshop

Weds 9th Sept 2009 Pera Conference Centre, Melton Mowbray

Purchase and prepaid cards are recognised as one of the tools to help improve procurement process efficiencies for certain types of expenditure.

This workshop will cover:

- An overview of where Local Authorities are now generally for purchase cards use and where they could be
- The GPC framework
- Interactive session to discuss issues and questions around purchase cards
- Local Authority case studies
- Prepaid / preloaded cards – what are they? How do they work?

The objectives of the workshop are to provide:

- an update on recent developments and learn about the pros and cons of purchasing and prepaid cards.
- an opportunity for delegates to discuss the issues with presenters and colleagues.

Target Audience

Procurement and Finance professionals who want to keep up to date with recent developments who have not fully engaged with this technology yet.

EU Remedies Legislation

Fri 25th Sept 2009, Shoosmiths Offices, Nottingham

The new EU Remedies legislation brings challenges to the way that Local Authorities award contracts. This workshop will:

- Review the current Remedies rules, and how they have shaped bidders thinking on whether to challenge
- Why the remedies rules are changing and when
- The new rules on standstill periods
- The new rules on limitation periods
- When the new “ineffectiveness” remedy will apply
- What it actually means, and the implications for procurement
- Signing “pre-nuptial” agreements to set out what happens if the contract is torn up
- When authorities can be fined under the new rules and how much
- How this applies to Part B, frameworks and call offs

Target Audience

Procurement and Legal professionals who want to keep up to date with recent developments.

Facilitator

The workshop will be led by Peter Andrews, head of Shoosmith EU law team. He is recognised by the legal press as a national leader in the field for his practical approach.

To book your FREE place for this event contact: Lois Dale, EM IEP

Tel: 0115 977 4921 Email: lois.dale@nottsc.gov.uk Web: www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk



Free Event

Vehicles & Fleet - Efficiencies, Carbon Reduction, Grey Fleet, Corporate Manslaughter risk **Tue 6 October 2009 (provisional date), Location (TBA)**

Overview

Vehicles and fleet are one of the top spend categories within most local authorities and so should present opportunities for efficiencies in the current financial climate.

However this workshop will also consider the hidden costs of the “grey fleet” and importantly the associated risks and the carbon reduction opportunities across both fleets.

Target Audience

Procurement, legal and fleet professionals, efficiency leads and those involved in carbon management who want to keep up to date with recent developments and learn about opportunities for efficiencies and consider collaborative strategies.

This workshop will:

- Provide an overview of the OGC Fleet collaborative programme
- Consider Strategies for collaboration
- Grey fleet, what is it, why is it important
- The Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007 and what this means for your authority and you as an individual.
- Greening your fleet

Facilitator

The workshop will be led by Peter Norman from the NHS who is sponsor of the OGC Fleet category group.

To book your FREE place for this event contact: Lois Dale, EM IEP

Tel: 0115 977 4921 **Email:** lois.dale@nottsc.gov.uk **Web:** www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk



Free Event

The Legalities around the Shared Services Agenda

Wednesday 14th October 2009, Shoosmiths Offices, Nottingham

In the current financial environment there is considerable emphasis being placed on shared services between local authorities and other public sector bodies however there appears a minefield of legal issues surrounding this agenda. This workshop is intended to help professionals identify those issues, what can and cannot be done and, and to provide a structure for further discussion.

Objectives are to provide:

- The procurement issues involved in a number of common shared services models. An update on recent case law on shared services, including the *Brent* and *Landkreise Rotenburg* cases, and a discussion around which forms of “administrative co-operation” between authorities may now be outside the procurement rules entirely.
- (Briefly) what the *Brent* case said on vires, wellbeing powers and shared services
- The contractual structures used in shared services arrangements, and how best to allocate risk between the parties, particularly when commercial partners are involved.

Target Audience

Procurement and Legal professionals and those managers actively involved in the shared service agenda who already have a good understanding of EU legislation but who now require specific knowledge of the legislation around the shared service agenda.

Note due to the complexity of the subject area this workshop will be strictly number limited.

Facilitator

The workshop will be led by Peter Andrews, Head of Shoosmith EU law team. He is recognised by the legal press as a national leader in the field for his practical approach.

Why you should attend?

The Shared Service agenda will have considerable importance over the coming months and it is important to keep up to date with recent developments to reduce the risk to your authority from a challenge.

To book your FREE place for this event contact: Lois Dale, EM IEP

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Event



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SOPO Annual Conference – Staying on the Leading Edge

Wednesday, 11 November 2009 - Manchester

SOPO have announced their annual conference "Staying on the Leading Edge" will be held in Manchester this year on

They have engaged a diverse range of speakers in a varied programme which will address some of the strategic issues and what is expected as the procurement profession strives for greater efficiencies and value for money.

The conference will also embrace some of the operational aspects of procurement, by looking at best practice and by introducing some of the latest changes and tools which are, or soon will be, available to us.



Speakers include:

- Alison Pritchard, Head of Strategy, GEO
- Brian Thomas, Environmental Services, Wakefield MDC
- Claire Smart, Gloucestershire County Council
- Denise Wilcox, Procurement Manager, Coventry City Council
- Dr Gordon Murray, Programme Manager, IDeA
- Georgina Aplin, OGC
- Jon Hughes, Chair, Windsor Foundation and Future Purchasing
- Martin Sykes, Chief Executive, Value Wales
- Mick Burns, Procurement Manager, Coventry City Council
- Terry Brewer, Chief Executive, Firebuy

For more details go to:

<http://www.bipsolutions.com/events/sopo09/about.html>

Publications



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OGC Buyers Guide

As part of the work of the pan-Government Energy project, OGC has published two indispensable and eagerly awaited guides to energy procurement in the public sector; *Energy buying – Working together for better results* and *Energy buying – The effective way to manage risk*.

Designed primarily as a quick and easy reference source for all public sector energy buyers, the guides also contain useful information for budget holders and financial managers. Included are a clear explanation of the key issues in the volatile energy market, an impartial assessment of the procurement options available and a step by step guide to choosing a procurement method. The guides also detail the key services available through Central Purchasing Bodies, the geographical areas they cover and sectors within which they operate.

The guides are now available to download on the OGC website at <http://www.ogc.gov.uk/energy> . There is also a limited supply of hard copies available from the OGC Service desk on 0845 000 4999 or at servicedesk@ogc.gsi.gov.uk, with the following reference numbers:

Energy Buying: The effective way to manage risk - CP0211/06/09
Energy Buying: Working together for better results - CP0212/06/09



Publications

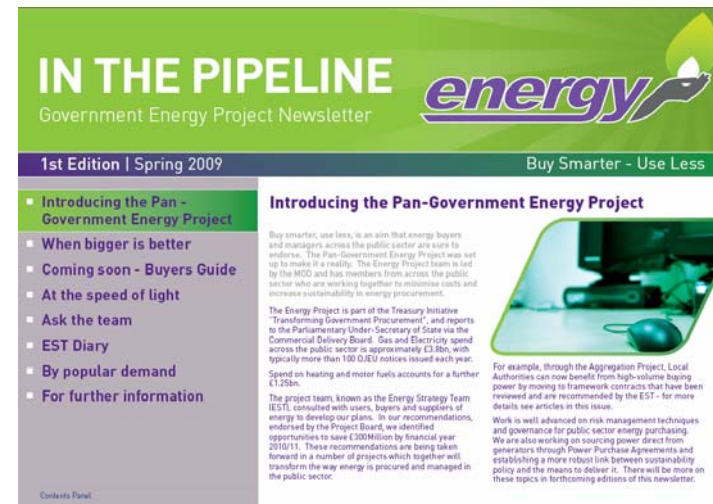


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Pan-Government Energy Project

The Energy Project is part of the Treasury Initiative “Transforming Government Procurement”, and reports to the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State via the Commercial Delivery Board. Gas and Electricity spend across the public sector is approximately £3.8bn, with typically more than 100 OJEU notices issued each year. Spend on heating and motor fuels accounts for a further £1.25bn.

The project team, known as the Energy Strategy Team (EST), consulted with users, buyers and suppliers of energy to develop our plans. In our recommendations, endorsed by the Project Board, we identified opportunities to save £300Million by financial year 2010/11. These recommendations are being taken forward in a number of projects which together will transform the way energy is procured and managed in the public sector.



Environmental and Social Responsibility Toolkit

In conjunction with Oxford Brookes University and the Association of Public Sector Excellence the Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnerships (RIEPs) have developed an Environmental and Social Responsibility toolkit for use by public sector caterers. This was developed with input from catering staff at Sunderland, South Tyneside and Durham councils.

It has been designed to complement guidance on food and catering produced by the School Food Trust, Sustainable Schools and Defra's Public Sector Food Procurement Initiative.

The aim of the toolkit is to provide caterers with a means of systematically organising, informing and monitoring their approach to sustainability and related issues including health and safety. It is a self help tool which allows users to develop a bespoke policy in accordance with their own needs and priorities.

Get your copy at:

<http://www.northeastiep.gov.uk/form.htm?mode=10&sid=12>

Lord Hunt signs off updated sustainable product purchasing criteria

New criteria for procurement professionals will help the Government achieve its aim of being among the leaders in the EU on sustainable procurement whilst achieving Value for Money.

ICT, wood products, transport and construction are all addressed in the new guidelines for best practice, approved by Defra.

Find out more:

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/gps_digest_lord_hunt_signs_off_updated_sustainable_product_purchasing_criteria.asp



News

Procurement for Housing

Membership of Procurement for Housing (PfH) is open to all local authorities, UK housing associations and ALMOs, regardless of size. There are over 650 Members nationally (with 41 already in the East Midlands) who spend in excess of £1m a week through PfH agreements.

Current frameworks include:

- Appliances
- Computer Equipment
- Creative Design
- Decorating vouchers
- Energy Management
- Energy Performance Certificates
- Fuel cards
- Janitorial Supplies
- Kitchens
- Office furniture
- Office stationery
- Paint
- Photocopies
- Postal Services
- Print Management
- Rent and bill payment cards
- Residential furniture
- Telecommunications
- Vehicle fleet management
- Workwear & PPE

For further information go to:

http://www.procurementforhousing.co.uk/about_us

PfH Conference 2009: Nurturing Innovation in Challenging Times

Tuesday, 24th November 2009 – ICC, Birmingham

The power of collaborative procurement is the principle on which Procurement for Housing PfH was founded.

The sector has seen PfH lead huge efficiencies through collaborative procurement, but how can it be harnessed to lead to new ideas, invention and originality?

For further information go to:

http://www.procurementforhousing.co.uk/about_us



Consultant Panels - Housing and Regeneration

The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) maintains a number of consultants' panels and term consultants to deliver our regeneration and development programmes. These panels are regularly re-procured.

Many of the HCA's panels have been procured on the basis that they can be used by their partner organisations, which include for example Urban Regeneration Companies, Regional Development Agencies, and Local Authorities

Current frameworks include:

- Graphic design
- 3D visualisation
- Archaeology
- Architecture
- Ecology
- Engineering
- Environmental impact assessment
- Environmental sustainability
- GIS
- Heritage
- Housing delivery strategies & funding
- Landscape architecture



- Land surveying
- Masterplanning
- Multidisciplinary
- Property
- Public art
- Project and cost management
- Strategic planning
- Transport planning
- Urban design

For more details go to:

http://www.homesandcommunities.co.uk/consultant_panels.htm

OGC have advised that the following frameworks have been added to the national contracts database:

Builder Materials - General, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1878.asp

Bricks, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1822.asp

Tiles (floor & Wall) and Tile Adhesives, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1812.asp

Towel Cabinet rental, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1856.asp

Sandwiches & Filled Bread Products, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1921.asp

Highway Condition Surveys, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1893.asp

Plumbing Materials, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1836.asp

Commercial & Passenger Transport Vehicles, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1430.asp

Cars (including Hybrid), see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1872.asp

Highway De-icing Salt, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1828.asp

Curtains & Blinds (Measuring, Making & Fitting), see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1842.asp

Road Hazard Warning Equipment, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1909.asp

Wooden Doors, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1839.asp

Catering Equipment Maintenance (Commercial & Domestic), see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1875.asp

Interactive Whiteboards & Audio Visual Solutions, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1896.asp

Bookbinding Service, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1869.asp

Pay & Display Machines, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1903.asp

Pay on Foot Tick Machines & Associated Hardware/software,

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1906.asp

Library Shelving & Counters. see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1897.asp

Bailiff Services, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1815.asp

Telephony - Call charging, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1924.asp

There is a new Framework from the Dept of Health to provide

IT Research services, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1932.asp

Buying Solutions have awarded their Project management

and Full Design Team Services framework, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1539.asp

YPO have awarded a new framework for Architectural

Ironmongery, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1760.asp

MOD Have awarded a framework for technical consultancy,

see http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_599.asp

Firebuy has added a new framework for Fire extinguishers,

other fire fighting products and related training courses, see

http://www.ogc.gov.uk/contractsdatabase/list_all_contracts_1927.asp



Contact Details and Useful Websites

Contacts

Chris Allison, Director

tel: **0115 977 3875** email: chris.allison@nottsc.gov.uk

Andrew Foster, Assistant Director

tel: **07921 491 698** email: andrew.foster@nottsc.gov.uk

Heather Parker,

Strategic Programme Planning and Support Manager

tel: **0115 977 3492** email: heather.parker@nottsc.gov.uk

Helen Richmond, Programme Manager

tel: **07921 491 696** email: helen.richmond@nottsc.gov.uk

Merlin Tinker, Programme Manager

tel: **07534 266 228** email: merlin.tinker@nottsc.gov.uk

Melanie Rowe, Principal Officer, Performance & Improvement

tel: **0115 977 2873** email: melanie.rowe@nottsc.gov.uk

Lois Dale, Administration, Events and Secretariat Manager

tel: **0115 977 4921** email: lois.dale@nottsc.gov.uk

Sandra Johal, Communications and Information Officer

tel: **0115 977 4194** email: sandra.johal@nottsc.gov.uk

Anne Gayfer, Programme Manager

tel: **07554 439 131** email: anne.gayfer@nottsc.gov.uk

Websites

East Midlands Improvement & Efficiency Partnership

www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk

EM Procurement Hub (Password Protected)

<http://secure.emce.gov.uk/procurement/index.htm>

Sustainable Procurement Information Network (SPIN)

www.s-p-i-n.co.uk

Source East Midlands Contract Portal

www.sourceeastmidlands.co.uk

East Midlands Law Share Partnership (EM LawShare)

www.emlawshare.co.uk

Postal Address

East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership

47 Loughborough Road

West Bridgford

Nottingham

NG2 7LA