

EM IEP Monthly Procurement and Efficiency Bulletin

October 2008



East Midlands
Improvement and
Efficiency Partnership

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Information

EM IEP Programme Manager Vacancy

Initially working on Climate Change/Environmental Services
Salary: **£38,404 - £42,664**

Would you like to provide valuable support to the 46 councils and 5 Fire & Rescue authorities in the East Midlands region?

Would you like to stretch your abilities to meet your full potential?

Working as one of the EM IEP Programme Managers could enable you to meet these challenges. Nottinghamshire County Council is the host authority for the East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership Support Team. The post of EM IEP Communications and Information Officer will be advertised on the Nottinghamshire County Council website from 29th September

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/home/jobs.htm>

Please refer to the following web page address for background information on the EM IEP
www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk

Please contact Andrew Foster (07921 491698) andrew.foster@nottsc.gov.uk for further information.



Information

East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership

The EM IEP aims to bring lasting improvements to our area and has a budget of £20 million over the next three years to do exactly that. It will help forge closer relationships between East Midland authorities, there are 46 councils and five fire and rescue authorities involved, to help them challenge and support one another on their 'improvement journeys'. Other local government organisations — such as the Audit Commission, Government Office East Midlands and the Improvement and Development Agency — will also play an important role.

A leaflet has been published by the EM IEP that is intended to give you an idea of the kind of work that will be carried out by the newly formed East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership (EM IEP). The leaflet has been distributed to all 46 councils and 5 fire & rescue authorities across the EM and is also available to download from the EM IEP website.

www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk/about_us.htm





Information

Action Sustainability launches the Iceberg Group

Action Sustainability is a social enterprise set up to lead and inspire sustainable procurement. They are a not for profit social enterprise registered as a Community Interest Company.

The Iceberg Group is a subscription service designed to enable you to benefit from year round access to the UK's leading practitioners of sustainable procurement in an affordable and easily accessible form. The menu of services offered aims to provide organisations with the capability and confidence to understand and maximise the benefits of procuring effectively and responsibly. Flexible, year round access to the very best sustainable procurement advice.

Our choice of four different subscription packages will enable your organisation to benefit from:

- Leading edge knowledge of the sustainable procurement agenda.
- Strategic and practical help and advice in-keeping with your organisation's overarching objectives to operate more sustainably.
- An authoritative service from an experienced team who can help you realise the benefits and overcome the challenges of sustainable procurement.
- A range of services which will help you progress your sustainable procurement plan against recommendations by the Sustainable Procurement Task Force (the Flexible Framework).

www.actionsustainability.com/iceberg_group/Default.asp



Information

A Providers Guide to Procurement

This is a guide to procuring services for the housing care and support sector. The guide was funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government and provides a step-by-step analysis of the procurement process and case histories from organisations who have tendered for services.

For the full document go to:

www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk/publications.htm#Procurement



5.2% Cost avoidance on electricity bills possible

Over 40 officers from 46 different authorities in the East Midlands heard how it is possible to save over 5% on energy bills by following the Flexible Procurement methodology developed as part of the Pan Government Energy Project during a workshop facilitated by the EM IEP on Tuesday 23 September. Berni Holdsworth from the MOD as the Programme sponsor supported by Susie Owen and Martina Lenaghan from OGC explained to delegates the complex issues involved and emphasised the need for Local Authorities to collaborate and aggregate demand to gain maximum advantage from the public sectors position as the largest purchaser of energy in the UK.

In an era of constantly changing prices a strategy based on "Flexible Procurement" has been shown and audited to delivery a 5.2% cost avoidance.

Delegates learned that the Project has developed a Complaint Contract framework to facilitate Flexible Procurement and to manage the risk strategy for what is an increasingly technical procurement area. The slides and documents provided for this workshop are available on the EM IEP web site:

www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk/events/feedback.htm

For further information please contact [Andrew Foster](#)



Information

New CPV Codes

Please be aware that the new version of the CPV (Common Procurement Vocabulary) codes (PDF) published in the Official Journal on the 15 March 2008 will be used in all components of the European public procurement portal commencing 16 September 2008
Go to:

http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/publicprocurement/e-procurement_en.htm#cpv

Specimen Conditions for Incorporation into a Transport Procurement Contract

This document provides specimen contract conditions and guidance for local authorities in order to achieve efficiencies in transport procurement through more standardised and simplified contract conditions.

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/regional/buses/tendering/specimenconditions.pdf>

English Partnerships framework

English Partnerships has recently established a framework for a wide range of consultant panels. They can be used by Local Authorities and its Partners to access consultant services directly without undertaking a full OJEU procurement process.

These panels include:

- Master Planning & Urban Design including Architecture & Landscape Architecture Engineering Planning (Strategic and Development)
- Transport Planning
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Environmental Sustainability
- Socio-economic Development
- Housing Delivery Strategies & Funding
- Archaeology
- Ecology
- Public Art
- Heritage
- 3D Modelling
- GIS/CAD
- Graphic Design
- Land Management

Go to the procurement hub via

5 www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk for more information.



Information

Inclusion of Efficiency Information with Council Tax Demand Notices:

People are rightly expecting more information, consultation, a greater say in decisions and the ability to demand answers or action from public services when things are not right.

At the same time, citizens place a high emphasis on the efficiency and value for money of those services. Councils recognised this and rose to the challenge set for them by the Gershon Review. They have reported forecast figures for cashable efficiency gains of £3.3 bn over the last four years – the equivalent of £123 off the average Band D council tax bill.

But it is vital to maintain a relentless drive for innovation, improvement and efficiency. We expect local government to be able to achieve three per cent efficiency savings each year over the next three years, as with the public sector generally in this spending review period. By doing so, this year, councils will not just have almost £1 bn extra in core grant, but also £1.5 bn on top to invest in better services, or help control council tax pressures.

Without information, citizens cannot be empowered. Taxpayers place great emphasis on getting value for money from local government, and it is right that they are given the data they need to judge progress and to hold councils to account. This consultation paper sets out a proposal to require councils to include standard, simple measures of efficiency performance alongside council tax notices to highlight for each household the real achievement of local government for them – and put that achievement properly into context.

Making best use of the resources and choices available to councils is at the heart of delivering successful public services. I look forward to receiving your responses to this proposal as the empowerment of local people is a subject that is vital to us all.

John Healey
Minister for Local Government

Access the full report from:
www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/952293.pdf



Information

New and improved Estates Professional Services Procurement Arrangements

New and improved Estates Professional Services procurement arrangements launched by OGCBuying.solutions

Organisations across the public sector striving to manage their estates more efficiently and sustainably are to be assisted by new and improved procurement arrangements launched today by OGCBuying.solutions

This framework agreement, which went live in September 2008, brings together a number of Estates Services designed primarily to assist with requirements which occur independently of general management and can be seen as stand alone appointments. These can range from a full appraisal of an organisation's business needs and existing holdings in an estate strategy, through to individual rent reviews or disposals. Professional advice, guidance, negotiation and assistance on property and estates issues will be available including, but not limited to:

- Acquisition of freehold and leasehold property
- Disposal of freehold and leasehold property
- Rent reviews

- Lease breaks and lease expiries
- Lease renewals
- Dilapidations
- Landlord and Tenant issues including Landlord consents, service charges and claims
- Rating support services
- Strategic advice, including the preparation and development of an estate strategy
- Procurement strategy for property related issues
- Development consultancy and advice
- Valuations
- Planning
- Condition surveys
- Service assurance
- Compulsory purchase
- Daylighting / sunlighting / overshadowing and rights of light
- Other neighbourly matters
- General advice on estate and property management

For further information go to :

<http://online.ogcbuyingsolutions.gov.uk/news/details.html?id=309>

Event



East Midlands
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EU legislation and EU Social Conditions events

Due to an over demand on the initial courses and in conjunction with Shoosmiths we are providing a further two workshops on:

Want to keep up to date with EU legislation ?

The course provides:

- an update on recent developments and case law, on various EU public sector procurement legislation topics including, competitive dialogue, the recent case law on award criteria, and the practical impact of next year's changes to the Remedies Rules,
- an opportunity for delegates to discuss the issues with the presenters.

EU Social Conditions

The course provides:

an update on recent guidance and case law surrounding Social Clauses within EU public sector procurement legislation topics, showing practically what can be used and what cannot.

an opportunity for delegates to discuss the issues with the presenters.

These further courses are being held on 1st of December and the 6th January as half-day events at shoosmiths.

Note for legal professionals you can claim CPD points for these courses.

Please contact lois.dale@nottsc.gov.uk for further information.

Contact Details and Useful Websites



East Midlands
Improvement and
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Websites

East Midlands Improvement & Efficiency Partnership

www.eastmidlandsiiep.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

Procurement Connection Online Toolkit

www.procurementconnection.co.uk

East Midlands Law Share Partnership (EM LawShare)

www.emlawshare.co.uk

Postal Address

East Midlands IEP Support Team,
47 Loughborough Road,
West Bridgford,
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NG2 7LA