

Appendix 2

Support from Key Sponsors (extract from the Invitation to Tender Foreword)

Improved procurement is expected to make a considerable contribution to tackling the deficit, and there is a need to do this in a sustainable, demonstrable and open manner. The focus of this contract – to deliver significant real savings whilst maintaining and enhancing service delivery – should come as no surprise.

Across the public sector, organisations are challenging their supply chains to proactively identify and help drive out savings, and to share these opportunities across the board, ensuring that where improvements are achieved for one client, they can be applied to others too.

This contract has been developed with all of these expectations in mind; aiming to reduce duplication, standardise requirements, and harness the benefits of aggregation, joint contracting and leveraging of spend, which are as applicable to the wider public sector as to central government.

David Shields
Programme Director, Markets & Collaborative Procurement, Efficiency Reform Group

Central government departments are committed to supporting the new government by playing a full part in the spending controls and in making sure that everything they buy is done so efficiently and with value for money and cost savings at the heart. The Department for Education is of course playing its full part and therefore sought to include education within this commercial arrangement so that schools could benefit from a framework agreement which would allow them to make savings whilst also having a wide range of other priorities met, e.g. the safeguarding of children. The DfE are fully committed to promoting the benefits of the Framework to Local Authorities and schools.

Alyson Gerner
Deputy Commercial Director, Department for Education

Securing genuine, cashable savings is a huge priority for local government. The emphasis is on achieving reductions across the piece, not just targeting one element – driving out savings internally, but also with main suppliers and throughout the supply chain.

Expectations of public sector procurement teams are high; the need for savings and smarter use of resources sits alongside requirements for visibility and transparency of spend, proactive management of demand, and balancing of multiple priorities such as safeguarding, economic development, and equality and diversity.

Delivering all of this will require a new level of engagement with our suppliers and colleagues, and the building of more open and challenging relationships.

Claire Smart, Director of Strategic Procurement, Gloucestershire County Council and Chair, Local Government Professional Services Group

One of the main aims of this framework agreement includes the intention to harness substantial leverage from public sector spend in this market in order to achieve maximum value for money.

The purchasing power of five of the UK's largest Professional Buying Organisations should generate genuine improvements in service provision with real access to both national and local supply chains which will provide focused and safe service provision for local councils and local educational establishments.

The adoption of this solution as the main source for Temporary Agency Workers by local government and schools will rationalise the number of competing contracts and represent a further genuine benefit of a Pro5 solution where procurement expertise is shared across the Professional Buying Organisations for the benefit of the entire local government and schools sectors.

Ed Walsh

Deputy Director, Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (for and on behalf of Pro5)