

Procurement Board

Communiqué

At Procurement Board on the 18 February 2015, key discussion items were the future of the Home Grown Talent Project (HGT), to learn more about the eProcurement benefits methodology and an update on the National Procurement Service (NPS) progress.

- As the new EU Directives would come into force at the end of February, there was a discussion about a document produced to provide chief executives and leaders with an overview of the opportunities that this development brings. It was key that the document outlined the impact of the changes and that more detailed support was available from Value Wales. The document was to be revised to include practical and tangible examples about how the Directives would work in practice, through possibly an e-document with a link to FAQs.
- Value Wales were in ongoing dialogue with UK Government to try and secure a general designation on public procurement. The Board considered what this would mean for governance of procurement in Wales and the revised Procurement Policy Statement. A decision on the request for a designation was imminent and Value Wales would advise the Board of the outcome and the associated implications.
- The Board were provided with 2012/13 spend examples from within and outside the scope of the NPS' activity. The Board recognised the importance of this information and how it can be used by individual organisations to help inform local procurement strategies. It was acknowledged that the approach to classification of spend in Wales didn't always take account of the major presence that national suppliers can have in Wales and the Board agreed that the reporting of Community Benefits outcomes would help identify the value delivered by suppliers not based in Wales. The NPS staff used it nearly everyday to inform their category strategies and Will Godfrey was keen to understand that the information was also being used by each individual organisation. The spend analysis data for 13/14 would be due back within the first week of March.
- The Board reviewed the eProcurement Benefits methodology and heard that work was underway to integrate the methodology into the Procurement Fitness checks model. The methodology would be formally launched during Procurement Week and the Board agreed to support adoption of this approach within their sectors.
- The current Home Grown Talent programme would come to an end in June and discussion was now taking place about a successor programme which could bid for ESF support. The Board reviewed the executive summary of an outline business case and recognised that there was a sufficient need for the project within the public sector. The Board were happy to proceed with the Outline Business Case and would review the Full Business Case at a later date.
- NPS had now made cashable savings of over £4.2m and a report on this would be circulated to Board members once it became available. The Building materials framework has recently been awarded and is one of 4 that have been awarded by the NPS with another 8 contract notices already issued that will be awarded shortly.
- Work was still ongoing on the reporting dashboard and Value Wales were currently undertaking a piece of work looking at its reporting regimes and how these could be improved. Targets and indicators would be looked to be added to the dashboard with hard and soft measures. Following the Procurement Fitness checks only 14 Local authorities had responded with an action plan or update. Will Godfrey agreed to follow this up with each Local authority.

Next meeting: 22nd April 2015: 2pm – 4pm