



Welcome to the January issue of our newsletter. It covers updates on the contracting team's activities; CPD sessions, NVQ availability and commodity groups. If you require additional details regarding any items contained in this newsletter, please contact any member of staff.

Contracting Update

Refuse Sacks

The ITT evaluation period has started and is scheduled to be completed by the 24th January 2011. The unsuccessful suppliers will be notified on the 28th January 2011 and the successful suppliers notified on the 14th February 2011. The agreement is scheduled to start on the 1st March 2011.

The following three agreements have now been advertised:

Firstly the **Tool Hire** agreement was advertised on the 10th December 2010. The closing date for the return of the first stage PQQ documents is the 11th January 2011. The new agreement is on schedule to commence on the 1st July 2011.

Secondly, the **Lift Consultancy** advertisement was placed on the 10th December 2010 and the closing date for the return of the PQQ stage is the 17th January 2011. The agreement is scheduled to commence on the 1st July 2011.

Finally, **Photographic Equipment and Consumables** was also advertised on the 10th December 2010 and is scheduled to start on the 1st August 2011

White Goods

Work has commenced on the new white goods framework agreement, and it is scheduled to be advertised on the 18th February 2011. The new agreement will start on the 1st September 2011 and run for two years with an option to extend for an additional 2 x 1 year periods.

Sanitary Disposal and Related Products

Work has also started on this agreement and the OJEU advertisement is scheduled to be placed on the 14th February 2011. The agreement is for 3 years plus an option to extend for one additional year if required.

NWUPC Supplier Financial Reports

We have commenced using N2check to run financial reports for all suppliers on our framework agreements. The reports were run on the 13th December 2010 and details are available via our website.

NWUPC Annual Conference

Our Annual Conference will be returning to the University of Manchester and will be held in the Renold Building on the Sackville Street campus on Wednesday 20th April.

As always, there will be a varied programme for delegates covering procurement related topics and a supplier exhibition with suppliers from across all commodity areas. The Conference is FREE to NWUPC members, further details about the event will be sent out in the near future.

CPD Sessions

Our CPD session in January is being held on the 20th and 21st January at the University of Salford and covers EU Directives. The presenter is Flo Gregg, and the session will present the legislative requirements using a practical delivery style and use group exercises to put theory into practice as the delegates construct elements of a tender document.

Enrolment details are available on our website.

NVQs

The Supply Chain Management NVQ continues at levels 2, 3, 4, and 5, further information can be obtained by contacting David Lamb at david.lamb@liverpool.ac.uk

Commodity Groups

Sadly I have to report that Ian Cook from Manchester Metropolitan University and a stalwart of the Computing Group will be taking early retirement and his last day in work will be Christmas Eve. Ian has been an invaluable member of the group not just for his input on the Computer Consumables Sub-Group but his amazing work as Chairman of the UCISA Software Group. We are very sorry to see Ian go and would like to wish him all the very best for a long and happy retirement. He will be much missed at Computer Group Meetings. Ian held a 'leaving do' at MMU on Wednesday 22nd December which was attended by Consortium staff and several members of the Computer Group.

Friday 3rd December saw the final Commodity Group meeting of 2010 when the Telecoms Group met in the Council Chamber at the University of Manchester, Sackville campus. Given the weather it was an excellent turn out and thanks to Peter Jones for hosting it. Emma George who started work for the Consortium on 29th November has been attending meetings to get a feel for her new role as National Working Party Administrator. Emma is working alongside the other NWPA Brenda Hird and will be a familiar face at Commodity Group meetings in 2011 as she continues with her training.

The Heads of Procurement Group held an Extraordinary General Meeting at the MacDonald Hotel in Manchester on Wednesday 15th December. This was arranged to discuss operational issues surrounding the possible merger of NWUPC with NEUPC and how such things as commodity groups will be affected. Mike Briggs from Leeds Metropolitan University and Chairman of the North East's Heads of Procurement Group attended to give the NEUPC perspective on the merger. An extremely productive meeting ensued with 24 Heads of Procurement in attendance. We would like to thank all those people who gave up their time to attend and give their views and ideas on the way forward.