

Hertfordshire and Luton Marketplace

NEWSLETTER

www.hertsdirect.org/eprocurement



Issue 2

June 2006

Hertfordshire County Council working in partnership with Dacorum Borough Council, East Herts District Council, Hertsmere Borough Council, North Hertfordshire District Council, St Albans City and District Council, Stevenage Borough Council, Three Rivers District Council, Watford Council, Welwyn Hatfield District Council and Luton Borough Council

Project Team Update

Since the first Newsletter in February there have been changes to personnel working on the project which have added to the impetus. Although the original intention was to appoint a single project co-ordinator experience has shown that this role is more effective if split over several disciplines. Dean Farran has been appointed as Project Co-ordinator, concentrating on the IDeA:Marketplace element. He has been meeting with Districts and developing their Project Plans. Aaron Coultrip has been appointed by @UKPLC to work on Supplier Adoption for the Hertfordshire and Luton Marketplace. Both Dean and Aaron are working together with Evelyn Poulton to ensure that all aspects of the marketplace are progressed. See more of the detail in the paragraphs below.

Progress So Far

The project kick off was in October 2005 and the project is progressing well. The Hertfordshire County Council Website and those of participating authorities have been updated with information on eProcurement and in particular to inform suppliers about the Hertfordshire and Luton Marketplace. Go to www.hertsdirect.org/eprocurement to see more and follow the links to participating authority websites.

Participating authorities have also been agreeing the contracts that they would like to use on the Marketplace. These include Central Buying Consortium (CBC), countywide contracts and those arranged by the Office of Government Commerce (OGC).

Project Co-ordination

During May project plans were developed for the 7 marketplace members who are already implementing (or about to start) and sent for review. Issues have been collected and placed in an issue list and similarly a project risk register has been created. The project co-ordinator has met with the FMS suppliers to ensure that they are aware of what the Hertfordshire and Luton Marketplace is trying to achieve and to discuss connectivity issues between the FMS and marketplace.

Project – measures of success

Those authorities that are live or are about to go live need to start considering the lessons they have learnt during implementation and all authorities need to think about the factors they will apply to measure their implementation's success. *The Marketplace Project Board will be running a workshop to decide collectively on benchmarking and the most effective measures of success for the project.*

Supplier Adoption

Supplier Adoption has been progressing at a steady rate since March 06. Supplier Adoption meetings have now been held with all of the Districts. To date there have been 75 registrations via the Common Supplier letter, mentioned in Newsletter Issue 1. The remaining suppliers are now being contacted by email/second letter.

@UKPLC would like to stress the importance of contacting your suppliers at the earliest opportunity. This will allow them time to respond, talk to @UKPLC and relevant Local Authorities and then develop a suitable site with the assistance of @UKPLC. Suppliers can only contribute to the success of the project and start to gain benefits themselves when they have a trading website.

It is important when providing @UKPLC with a list of key suppliers that the data is as complete as possible. Once provided with this @UKPLC have a team that are available to contact suppliers and obtain any additional information making sure that any letter from the authority is going to the right person. Result, less work and savings on postage and time. Giving @UKPLC your supplier list as soon as possible will enable the data to be 'cleaned' - this can then be fed back into the local (Financial Management System) FMS.

Individual Supplier Adoption progress can be seen in the District and Borough Council report below.

Hertfordshire and Luton marketplace implementation								
Authority	Implementation type	FMS provider (software)	Pilot go live	Key Dates			Supplier Adoption Start	Suppliers Ready
				System Admin training	FMS Ready	Testing Complete		
Dacorum Borough Council	Punch-In	Agresso (Business World)	May '06	√			-	-
East Hertfordshire District Council	P2P	Civica/Radius (Powersolve)	Nov '06	√	30-Jun	July '06	Aug '06	Oct '06
Hertsmere Borough Council	Punch-In	Civica/Radius (Powersolve)	Sep '06 (tbc)	√			Jun '06	Aug '06
Luton Borough Council	Punch-In	Civica/Radius (Powersolve)	tbc				-	-
North Hertfordshire District Council	P2P	iB Solutions (Integra)	Aug '06 (tbc)	√			Jun '06	Aug '06
St. Albans City Council	Punch-In	iB Solutions (Integra)	Aug '06	√	01-Jun	July '06	May '06	Jul '06
Stevenage Borough Council	P2P	iB Solutions (Integra)	tbc	√			Jul '06	Sep '06
Three Rivers District Council	P2P	Civica/Radius (Powersolve)	Nov '06	Aug '06	06-Jul	Sep '06	Jun '06	Aug '06
Watford Borough Council	Punch-In	B-Plan (Aptos)	May '06	√	√	√	-	-
Welwyn Hatfield District Council	Punch-In	Agresso (Business World)	Sep '06 (tbc)	Jul '06			Jun '06	Aug '06

District and Borough Council Status

Watford

Marketplace Implementation: Watford Borough Council were the first council to go live at the start of May with Banner Business Services. Since going live they have been working to add punch out links to the Hertfordshire Business Services Catalogue and the Supplies Team contract for Computer Consumables. They are also looking at how to order from the OGC Buying Solution catalogues which are available for use on the Marketplace. They are also investigating with Heads of Service local contracts that can now be placed onto Marketplace. Banner will now only accept orders for Watford via the marketplace.

Supplier Adoption: Key Suppliers are being identified and Watford Borough Council are looking to work with Hertsmere and Three Rivers to organise a supplier adoption seminar.

Stevenage

Marketplace Implementation: Stevenage Borough Council have had to delay their implementation until later in the year due to external issues.

Supplier Adoption: This will be timed to fit in with their go live, but is planned to begin in July.

St Albans

Marketplace Implementation: St Albans City Council received their punch-in connector from IB Solutions on 31st May. Testing revealed some issues which need to be resolved by IB Solutions but these are only minor and should not affect the planned pilot go live in August (subject to review of the project plan by St Albans).
Supplier Adoption: Mail merge was created and letters to suppliers sent out during May. To date there have been over 40 registrations.

Three Rivers

Marketplace Implementation: Three Rivers District Council are using an interface which is about to start being developed by East Herts. The current planned go live is November.
Supplier Adoption: Meeting arranged for 9th June with Procurement to start the local supplier adoption process.

East Herts

Marketplace Implementation: East Hertfordshire District Council are developing their own interface which will also be used by Three Rivers. The current planned go live is the beginning of November.
Supplier Adoption: Meeting arranged for 7th June to attend local Project Board. Supplier list to be provided in June. Data will then be cleaned and mail shot to key suppliers arranged for July/August.

Dacorum

Marketplace Implementation: Dacorum went live on 26th May with Agresso Procurement Module. They are now planning the implementation of Marketplace for Catalogue purchases to be included in the next phase of their procurement rollout. Some work is required by their FMS provider (Agresso) to allow free-text orders to be transmitted out through the marketplace rather than straight from the FMS.
Supplier Adoption: Initial meeting held with Procurement, key supplier list to be provided.

Welwyn Hatfield

Marketplace Implementation: Welwyn-Hatfield District Council are about to start their implementation. Welwyn-Hatfield are also an Agresso customer but the free-text issue should be resolved by the time they go live.
Supplier Adoption: Supplier list has been supplied to @UKPLC to be cleaned. Mail shot to key suppliers to be completed by end of June.

North Herts

Marketplace Implementation: North Hertfordshire District Council have just placed an order with their FMS supplier (IB Solutions) for an interface. Once the delivery date for the interface is known we can firm up the pilot go live date.
Supplier Adoption: Supplier list has been provided to @UKPLC to be cleaned. Mail shot to key suppliers to be completed by end of June.

Luton

Marketplace Implementation: Luton Borough Council are rolling out their procurement system (Orbit) but their version does not support the return of the purchase order to the marketplace for onward transmission (the next version does). The FMS provider (Civica) will retrofit the functionality if requested to do so or Luton can choose to upgrade Orbit.
Supplier Adoption: Well attended local Supplier Breakfast meeting held 27 April. List of key suppliers to be provided to @UKPLC.

Hertsmere

Marketplace Implementation: Hertsmere Borough Council use the same system as Luton and are also rolling it out. They face the same issue as Luton with regard to retrofitting vs. upgrading.
Supplier Adoption: Supplier list has been provided to @UKPLC to be cleaned. Mail shot to key suppliers to be completed by end of June.