

- equalities
- sustainability
- planned and managed procurement
- procurement skills and knowledge
- corporate social responsibility

Procurement Strategy

- towards procurement excellence
- e-Procurement
- balance quality with whole life costs
- market intelligence
- risk management
- standard documentation
- innovative partnerships
- contract management
- EC procurement law
- true and fair competition
- propriety and probity
- collaborative arrangements



putting people first



Mission Statement

“To obtain best value for Greater Manchester Police Authority and Greater Manchester Police through planned and managed procurement processes”.

Introduction

Procurement is:

- The acquisition of goods, services and works for the benefit of Greater Manchester Police Authority (GMPA) and Greater Manchester Police (GMP), the citizens and business community, and visitors to Greater Manchester;
- Central to all that we do in policing today; and,
- A key strategic element of the GMP support service activity, and influences a significant proportion of the force's overall non-pay related expenditure.

Effective procurement is fundamental to service improvement and the achievement of Best Value.

Purpose and Aims

All procurement activity will:

- Align with the Policing and Strategic Plans for the force and the authority;
- Contribute to the achievement of corporate goals;
- Respond to user requirements;
- Demonstrate a commitment to fulfil the expectations of GMPA, chief officers and personnel at all levels throughout the organisation; and,
- Adopt a strategic and transparent approach to value for money.

Responsibility and Accountability

- Greater Manchester Police Authority (GMPA) is the accountable body for all contractual arrangements emanating from GMP procurement processes.
- Scrutiny for procurement is provided through GMP and GMPA committee processes, District and Internal Audit and Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary (HMIC).
- Contract award and decision making will be the responsibility of the GMP Finance Governance Panel and or GMPA.
- Procurement and contract management expertise will be provided by the Procurement Unit.

Principles

- Procurement processes will be underpinned with the guidance developed by the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) and other government agencies.
- Comprehensive business plans will provide strategic objectives from which procurement decisions to “make or buy” will emerge.
- Procurement processes will embrace the guidelines stated in the GMPA and GMP Competition Policy.
- Due consideration will be given to health & safety, equalities, business ethics, human rights, sustainability, social enterprise and workforce issues when undertaking any procurement activity.
- All Procurement activity will be conducted in an environmentally responsible manner.

Rules and Best Practice

- The rules used for procurement will be those determined by EC and UK Law, GMPA Contract Standing Orders and Chief Constable's Financial Instructions.
- Procurement activity will be performed in accordance with true and fair competition rules.
- Procurement will be based upon arrangements in which both the GMPA and their suppliers seek to gain mutual advantage.
- Procurement procedures and guidelines published within a Corporate Code of Practice will be properly maintained and regularly updated to ensure continuous improvement.

- All procurement decisions will be recorded and clear audit trails established in order to ensure openness, propriety and probity.
- Best value evaluation criteria driven by desired outputs will be adopted balancing quality with whole life costs.

Management and Working Practices

- Procurement processes will demonstrate a commitment to Association of Police Authorities (APA), ACPO Regional and National collaborative arrangements, and where appropriate, involve other partners, emergency services and government agencies.
- Innovative partnership arrangements will be encouraged with suppliers and other sector organisations.
- Procurement expertise will develop and only best practice techniques will be adopted to ensure continuous improvement.
- Clear contract management systems will be applied in order to monitor performance over the whole life of a contract.
- A register of current contracts and a schedule of contracts to be awarded over a three year period will be published.
- Best possible use of electronic procurement will enhance overall performance and harness efficiency savings.
- Close working with GMPA and GMP Policy makers will continue to add value through best practice procurement.
- Standard documentation will be utilised and professional practices and procedures adopted using latest technology.
- Procurement activity will respond to market intelligence and commercial awareness.
- In contract negotiations the philosophy will be to allocate risk to parties best able to manage it.
- Understanding the difference between strategic and transactional procurement will identify the different skills required for each.
- Procurement section staff will be continually trained in best practice methodology.
- Procurement performance will be regularly measured using key performance indicators set against a published Procurement Service Level Agreement