

Welsh Purchasing Consortium

Consortiwm Pwrcasu Cymreig

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Secretary: Welsh Purchasing Consortium P.J. Lucas LLB Ysgrifennydd : Consortium Pwrcasu Cymreig Y Pafiliwnau Parc Cambrian Cwm Clydach TONYPANDY CF40 2XX Ffon: 01443 424105 Ffacs: 01443 424114

Our Ref: WPC/PJL

Date: 5th February 2013

Dear Chief Executive,

Welsh Purchasing Consortium

As Secretary of the Welsh Purchasing Consortium Management Board I write to you in the context of the letter sent to the six Local Authority Chief Executives in North Wales by Steve Thomas at the WLGA.

Given the imminent establishment of the NPS, which will deal with approximately 20% of our procurement spend, we feel that there is now a great opportunity for local government in Wales to adopt a pan local government collaborative approach to the remaining 80% of our spend which will not be covered by the NPS.

We do believe that a collaborative All Wales Local Government Procurement Service covering the 22 authorities can deliver additional efficiencies to those delivered to date, whilst fully supporting indigenous local and regional suppliers. This can be achieved through sensitive and well thought out approaches to procurement projects and early and well planned engagement with the supply base.

The WPC has commissioned some expenditure analysis work in respect of this remaining spend which we will review through a number of workshops over the next 6-8 weeks. We would be pleased to include the six North Wales authorities in this review without any commitment and we would welcome representation from your authority. This exercise will be critical in helping to identify potential collaborative procurement opportunities and formulating a forward work plan.

All local authorities have signed up to the NPS in principle and we believe local government now has the opportunity to develop a truly inclusive collaborative procurement structure covering all Welsh local authorities. Any collaborative All Wales Local Government Procurement Service covering the 22 Authorities would sit between the NPS and Regional / Local procurement initiatives and would not be in competition with these other procurement initiatives.

Secretary: Mr.P.Lucas, Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, The Pavilions, Clydach Vale, Tonypandy, CF40 2XX

Constituent Authorities Blaenau Gwent Bridgend (Pen y Bont Ar Ogwr) Caerphilly (Caerffili) Cardiff (Caerdydd) Carmarthenshire Ceredigion

Merthyr Tydfil (Merthyr Tydful) Monmouthshire (Sir Fynwy) Neath Port Talbot (Castell-nedd Port Talbot) Newport (Casnewydd) Pembrokeshire (Penfro) Powys To support your deliberations I have attached our "Benefits of WPC Membership" document for your information and perusal. The document provides an insight into both the benefits achieved through our existing collaborative procurement arrangements for our members over recent years and our current method of working.

In summary I would therefore be grateful if you would consider both the invitation for your authority to be involved in the forthcoming expenditure analysis workshops and to let me have your thoughts regarding the proposal to develop an all-Wales local government collaborative procurement presence. Members and Officers within the WPC would welcome the opportunity to discuss the issues with you.

I look forward to receiving your considered response.

Yours sincerely,

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Secretary to Welsh Purchasing Consortium.

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