

## **WIRRAL COUNCIL**

### **FINANCE AND BEST VALUE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**17 SEPTEMBER 2007**

#### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

#### **CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF PURCHASING AND SUPPLY – ANNUAL AWARDS**

##### **1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1. Wirral has been short listed as part of the Merseyside Collaborative Procurement Group in the Best Public Procurement Project category by the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply. The winners of which will be announced at the Annual Dinner on 20 September 2007.

##### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply is an international organisation, based in the UK, serving the purchasing and supply profession. Dedicated to promoting best practice, it provides a wide range of services for the benefit of members and the wider business community. At its annual dinner it holds the Supply Management Awards in association with its professional members' magazine, Supply Management.
- 2.2 The awards celebrate and reward excellence in the field of purchasing and supply management. Over the past seven years the awards have grown in prestige as more and more organisations recognise and appreciate the impact that the purchasing and supply management function makes to their business.
- 2.3. The awards ceremony will be on the evening of 20 September 2007 at the Grosvenor House Hotel, London.
- 2.4. In 2004 the Merseyside Procurement Group was formed, which consisted of the five Merseyside Authorities, namely Sefton, St. Helens, Liverpool, Knowsley and Wirral. Earlier this year the Group was extended to include Halton, Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority and Merseytravel.
- 2.5. In 2006 the Group simultaneously embarked upon two sourcing projects for Office Supplies and Office Furniture. For both projects it was decided to utilise eSourcing technology to run the tenders, including the use of eAuctions for the final and best offer stage. The Group chose the Office of Government Commerce (OGC) framework providers e-Three to facilitate the eAuctions whilst the North West Centre of Excellence (NWCE) provided financial support.

2.6. The projects have been successful and it is estimated that savings in excess of £6.5m will be delivered over the four year period of the contracts.

2.7. In addition to overall savings the projects delivered a number of benefits in line with the corporate objectives of each Authority. These include:-

- Elimination of duplication of effort
- Maximum utilisation of procurement expertise and resource
- Sourcing process optimisation and diligence
- Efficient use of purchasing technology
- Support for the local economy
- Advancements in sustainability
- Rationalisation of the supply base

### **3. PERFORMANCE AWARDS**

3.1. The Merseyside Collaborative Group was nominated for the category of Best Public Procurement Project for the two projects outlined above. The requested applications for this area had to demonstrate best value in terms of delivering services and using resources in the public sector.

3.2. The Group submission focused strongly on joint cross authority working and use of innovative technology solutions

### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1. The cost of attendance at the Annual Awards Ceremony will be £165 plus travel and overnight accommodation.

### **5. STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

5.1. There are none arising directly from this report.

### **6. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1. There are none arising directly from this report.

### **7. COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

7.1. There are none arising directly from this report.

### **8. LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS**

8.1. This report has no particular implications for any Members or Wards.

### **9. LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

9.1. There are none arising directly from this report.

10. **PLANNING IMPLICATIONS**

10.1. There are none arising directly from this report.

11. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

11.1. Background Papers: None.

12. **RECOMMENDATION**

12.1. That attendance at the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply Annual Ceremony be referred to Cabinet for approval of duty.

IAN COLEMAN  
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

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