

# Dorset Councils Working Together (DCWT)

**Category Liaison Managers (CLMs):**

**Siân Williams**

**Angela Pavey**





Christchurch Borough Council



Dorset County Council



East Dorset District Council



North Dorset District Council



Purbeck District Council



West Dorset District Council



Weymouth & Portland Borough Council



# Background

In 2009 Dorset Leaders and Chief Executives Group approved the business case:

- Cashable savings of at least £2m over 5 years
- Reductions in time taken on purchasing and payments.
- Support for the local economy
- Improved compliance with contract regulations (reduced risk)
- Improved management information
- Improved standards of goods and services, and better value.



# Organisation

- Employed by the 6 district and borough councils
- Hosted by Dorset County Council
- Located within Dorset Procurement at County Hall
- Direction from the Dorset Joint Procurement Partnership Board
- Dorset Pathfinder Liaison Panel
- Work to a DCWT Category Plan agreed by the Board
- Work is focussed on areas of spend across Dorset rather than on the individual council's spend.



# Centrally based – advantages

- Access to expertise / resource
- County / regional / national developments
- Latest national and EU legislation
- Awareness of new tender opportunities
- Potential for district / borough input to contracts



# Key benefits

- Dedicated resource to work for the districts and boroughs
- Provide cost savings and efficiencies for the Dorset Procurement Partnership
- Ensure compliance on procurement activity
- Available to give borough / district staff help on individual procurement issues
- Frees up staff time in the districts and boroughs.



# Work to date

- Joint tendering on behalf of the Dorset Procurement Partnership
- Continue to seek opportunities for collaboration between councils
- Identifying DCC and other regional or national contract opportunities
- Looking at specific areas of spend
- Researching the market and talking to suppliers



# Work to date

- Reviewing districts' spend analyses
- Assisting districts on day to day procurement issues
- Advising on new developments / legislation
- Identifying and collating information on savings
- Circulating contract opportunities from procurement colleagues



# Saving achievements to date

2010/11

Target £47,61

**Achieved £186,23**

2011/12

Target £174,853

**Achieved £249,959**



# Why do we need to do this?

- Severe cuts in public sector budgets
- Ensure compliance with Financial & Procurement Regulations
- The need to get more, for less money
- Consistency in standards of goods and services across Dorset



# What does this mean for suppliers?

- Less localised, ad hoc buying arrangements by councils
- Larger contract opportunities
- Councils will seek innovation from suppliers on ways to make contracts more cost efficient and beneficial to both sides



# Useful contacts

South West Procurement Portal  
[www.supplyingthesouthwest.org.uk](http://www.supplyingthesouthwest.org.uk)

Dorset For You  
[www.dorsetforyou.com](http://www.dorsetforyou.com)

Dorset Procurement Email Address  
[dp@dorsetcc.gov.uk](mailto:dp@dorsetcc.gov.uk)



# Thank You

# Questions?

