

Autumn 2009

## Minister announces new Community Equipment Framework

The new all-Wales Community Equipment Framework, which provides care equipment for vulnerable members of the community, has been announced by Andrew Davies, Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery. The Framework is the successful conclusion of a joint project led by Value Wales and Welsh Health Supplies and has been awarded for the supply of equipment such as hoists, walking frames, commodes and beds.

The Minister said: "This innovative joint project will bring benefits to a wide range of organisations not only delivering savings for the public sector but also helping the most vulnerable members of our communities."

"Improving procurement processes will make a major contribution to the provision of vital social care services. By working collaboratively and pooling resources and budgets significant savings will flow from this agreement."

The Framework was widely advertised. 60 suppliers expressed an interest and 48 tendered. 27 suppliers have been successful, 10 being based in Wales.

Neil Abraham, Occupational Therapy Manager of Bridgend County Borough Council, said "The right personal aids can transform the quality of life for people with physical needs. As a clinician who has been involved in assessing and prescribing equipment for over 20 years the opportunity to evaluate such a wide range of products and discuss and share experiences with colleagues across Wales has been invaluable. Together we will be delivering a consistently high quality product across Wales and making considerable savings."

Mark Roscrow, Director Welsh Health Supplies, said "We were delighted to lead this tender exercise. The considerable support of clinicians, stores managers and procurement colleagues from across Wales has allowed us to create a new agreement that will benefit many people across Wales, and provide a truly collaborative framework for future projects."

The Framework, which commenced on 1 July, will be used by Local Authorities and Health Trusts across Wales.



A number of supported businesses are involved in the supply chain – including Monwel Hankinson (Newport), Vision Products (RCT), Sure Sprung (Swansea) and Cefndy Healthcare (Denbighshire).

For details on the framework contact [karen.williams3@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:karen.williams3@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

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# Welcome...

Welcome to the Autumn 2009 edition of Cytgord. Since the Winter 2008 edition we have four new Value Wales frameworks including the innovative all-Wales Community Equipment supply and store framework, led by Welsh Health Supplies, which should save around £1m each year and deliver benefits to a wide range of organisations.

We have also started delivery of the Procurement Strategy for Construction, and the research into "Barriers to Procurement Opportunities for SMEs" was published in May. The research recommendations are challenging, and have already provoked a good deal of debate but offer real progress in reducing bureaucracy. In developing the way forward, views on the practicalities are being gathered – look out for the next edition of Cytgord for an update. Interest in the new Invest to Save

Fund has been high and the Welsh Assembly Government will soon be awarding funding for the first round of projects. The next opportunity to bid under the Fund is likely to be November.

Value Wales is leading the way in many of these important areas by encouraging collaborative working, promoting excellence and helping organisations deliver value for money whilst achieving sustainability. But we will only succeed by working together and taking joint ownership of the



outcomes we are trying to achieve. We need to focus attention not on the optimum solution for our individual organisations but on what will work best for the end user - that might be essential care equipment for vulnerable members of the community being available wherever they live, or a business that wants to reduce bidding overheads and increase its chances of winning a public sector contract. Making the best use of our resources and working together we can deliver better ways of working and achieve better results.

## New Procurement Route Planner

Since its launch in July 2006, the Procurement Route Planner (PRP) has grown hugely in popularity within the Welsh public sector and beyond and has proved invaluable to practitioners in guiding them through the whole procurement process.



To ensure the PRP continues to meet the needs of the public sector in key spend areas, it has recently been developed to include new sections dedicated to Construction (page 3), Social Care (page 5) and Food (page 10). These new sections are a real enhancement as they provide specific guidance and templates within these strategic areas. Further information can be found on the mentioned pages above.

The PRP also now incorporates a dedicated Training and Development section covering skills gaps, available training and details of Value Wales courses.

The PRP retains the easy to follow structure and standard procurement documents, whilst improving on navigation, search facilities and communication.

The new PRP will be launched at the end of September and can be accessed at [www.buy4wales.co.uk/PRP/index.html](http://www.buy4wales.co.uk/PRP/index.html). For further information please contact: [victoria.saunders@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:victoria.saunders@wales.gsi.gov.uk) or [karen.coombs@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:karen.coombs@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

# A Welsh public sector procurement strategy for construction

Following consultation with procurers and suppliers alike, a procurement strategy for construction was approved by the Finance Minister's Business Procurement Task Force and the Assembly Government's Cabinet in the spring of this year.

The strategy is seeking to achieve improvements in procurement in the way that we initially engage with suppliers – just like a good construction project really, putting all the foundations in place to ensure a good outcome!

In conjunction with public sector colleagues, Value Wales has been busy progressing the implementation of the strategy.

Read on to find out more of what has been achieved so far.

## Investment Database

Included within the early action plan has been a focus on developing a database of planned projects which now holds information from a number of public sector organisations.



Hosted on the national procurement website ([buy4wales/sell2wales](http://buy4wales/sell2wales)), this is an especially important piece of work and will benefit both procurers and suppliers.

For public sector procurers, the database provides a strategic picture of all of the planned projects so that we better understand the potential impact our requirements may have in terms of the capacity of the construction sector to deliver all of our requirements.

Suppliers are especially pleased to see that the database is operational as it provides them with better visibility of future opportunities so that they are able to plan to better compete when the procurement commences.

## Supplier Selection

Supplier qualification and selection has long been identified as the major barrier that prevents suppliers, especially smaller suppliers, from accessing public procurement opportunities. This was also borne out by the "Barriers to Procurement Opportunity" research that was commissioned by the Finance Minister.

The consequences of the economic downturn for suppliers and the messages emerging from the Lianakis and Amarylilis cases further emphasised the need to improve the way that we qualify and select suppliers.



In partnership with Constructing Excellence Wales, Value Wales convened two workshops during the summer, specifically to explore the opportunity for developing and embedding a more consistent approach to supplier qualification and selection. Those that attended and contributed will confirm that a lot of detail was covered in a short period of time, but there was some really valuable input which helped inform the development of a proposed way forward.

These proposals have now been circulated for consultation and feedback would be very welcome as they set out a suggested common approach to supplier selection.

Being considered in parallel with supplier selection is how we can be more consistent in using registration systems. Value Wales has met with providers of systems such as Constructionline and proposals will be developed to set out opportunities for consulting on how we can improve this element of procurement.

## Further Information

You can access further details regarding the outputs of the strategy, together with other useful guidance on the construction section of the newly refreshed procurement route planner at [www.buy4wales.co.uk/prp](http://www.buy4wales.co.uk/prp). Alternatively, please contact Nick Sullivan, Head of Construction Strategy on: [nick.sullivan@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:nick.sullivan@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

# Grŵp Gwalia pioneer groundbreaking online trading

Welsh Housing Association, Grŵp Gwalia, has become the first Welsh Public Sector organisation to go live with the Welsh Assembly Government's sponsored eTrading solution, xchangewales.

Andrew Davies, Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery, congratulated Grŵp Gwalia on his recent visit, he commented; "Implementing any form of change into a business can be challenging. Grŵp Gwalia have been great advocates of the programme from the start".

xchangewales is a ground breaking programme that allows all public sector organisations in Wales to source, tender, evaluate, order and pay for goods and services at a click of a button.

"The significant savings released by xchangewales, up to £200 million over 5 years, can be reinvested locally in the delivery of improved public services for the citizens of Wales. We've already calculated the xchangewales programme has delivered benefits of over £10 million".

Four years ago, Grŵp Gwalia carried out an analysis of their financial management systems.

The xchangewales solution came up as the best option for a number of reasons:

- **Economies of Scale** – Grŵp Gwalia would be able to take advantage of the buying power of the Welsh Public Sector as a whole.



From left to right: Michael Williams, Gwalia Chief Executive; Minister Andrew Davies; Tracey Healy, Gwalia

- **Reassurance** – the technology behind the xchangewales solution was proven and in use.
- **New opportunities** – joining the xchangewales programme would open up opportunities to collaborate on large scale procurement projects.

Tracey Healey, Director of Procurement & Business Management for Grŵp Gwalia, said "Every organisation adopting eProcurement should undertake some form of business process change on both their internal and external processes.

"Even taking a couple of steps out of the P2P process can yield significant savings. And of course, thinking of our environment, when we print off reams of heavy documentation –

previously if Grŵp Gwalia stacked all their paper output on top of each other, the pile would be as high as the Eiffel Tower" (324 meters high!)

Tracey added "However, the full costs of delivering change should not be ignored, implementation of new technology was a learning curve for all and internal barriers such as budget coding, workflows and the empowerment of staff were all challenges that we had to overcome. We are looking forward to realising the cumulative financial benefits that the programme can deliver, internally procurement will be seen as strategic rather than a back office function."

For further information visit:  
[www.xchangewales.co.uk](http://www.xchangewales.co.uk)  
and [www.gwalia.com](http://www.gwalia.com)

## I.T. Equipment Framework

The I.T. Equipment Framework continues to deliver value for money and a low-risk multi-supplier approach. This choice ensures on-going competition amongst the suppliers across a range of ICT products and services. Organisations using the agreement can benefit from energy efficient specifications and low

energy consumption products reducing environmental impact. Supplier catalogues reflect this and Value Wales are introducing new mechanisms to record these 'value added' benefits.

For further information please contact:  
[carla.lavender@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:carla.lavender@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

# Launch of Social Care Procurement Route Planner

As part of the revamp of the Procurement Route Planner (PRP), Value Wales will be launching the Social Care and Supporting People (SC&SP) - PRP during the Pan Wales Commissioning and Contracting Officers conference at the Millennium Stadium Cardiff on the 6th October 2009. Supporting the Commissioning Guidance for social care services currently out for consultation, the SC&SP - PRP has been developed in conjunction with a wide range of representatives from across the Welsh Assembly Government and Local Authority, Local Health Boards and Provider organisations.

The SC&SP – PRP will be a web based step by step tool illustrated with templates and case studies.

Targeted at Commissioning and Contracting officers new to the field of Social Care and



Supporting People but also of interest to Corporate Procurement colleagues and Providers.

Based on the Institute of Public Care (IPC) model of Commissioning and Contracting, the SC&SP – PRP is designed to help Commissioning organisations develop an outcome focused approach to the procurement of SC&SP services.

For further information please contact: [sue.lloydselby@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:sue.lloydselby@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

## CIPS Cohort 09/10

Value Wales are happy to report the ongoing success of the CIPS Cohort, having seen an achievement of exam pass rates above the national average on the majority of our modules.

We are now beginning the 09/10 timetables in levels 4, 5 and 6 where modules will run subject to demand with the University of Glamorgan.

The CIPS Cohort allows flexible learning and will enable you to become MCIPS qualified via the examination route.

For more information please contact: [victoria.saunders@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:victoria.saunders@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

## Invest to Save fund response excellent

Since its announcement in May by Andrew Davies the Minister for Finance & Public Service Delivery, interest in the new £60 million Invest to Save Fund has been brisk - with a considerable number of enquiries to Value Wales, via telephone, email and through the internet web.

The total number of expressions of interest submitted by the public sector under the Fund's first round exceeded 100 with the majority coming from the NHS and local authorities, involving some 31 bodies.

Projects with the greatest potential benefits were initially invited to present their proposals to an Assembly Government Panel and then invited to provide detailed bids in the form of a business case so that

final decisions on the projects to be invested in could be made.

The funds will be available, initially over two years (2009-10 and 2010-11). Grant will be fully repayable, but there will be no interest charges and there will be flexibility on the payback period.

This approach will ensure that the fund is replenished after the Assembly Government's initial



investment, and we will be able to continue to invest in new projects beyond the first two years.

The next opportunity to bid under the Fund is likely to be in November 2009.

Further information, including details of projects that receive support, can be found at [www.wales.gov.uk/improvingpublicservices](http://www.wales.gov.uk/improvingpublicservices) under Related Links

# Barriers to Procurement Opportunity

A research report, with recommendations for reducing barriers to procurement opportunities for SMEs, was published on the Value Wales website in May.

The research was commissioned by the Business Procurement Task Force and carried out jointly by the University of Glamorgan and TenderWise (Bangor University and Trinity College Carmarthen). All Welsh local authorities and a large number of other public sector organisations were consulted during the research, and 125 supply side organisations also responded.

The headline finding is that there is a large proportion of the information sought from suppliers that is common to all procurements and yet the information is asked for time and again.

The headline recommendations are that processes should be standardised where possible, and a single database should hold common core supplier data.

The report has been welcomed by Andrew Davies, Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery, and an action plan is being developed, through further consultation, to address the recommendations. There is already a good deal of consensus amongst public sector procurement staff in favour of greater standardisation, storing data, and reducing bureaucracy.

There are also some issues that are provoking debate. However, Value Wales is not able to enforce specific changes to procurement practices throughout Wales; it can only help drive and support change. It is for all parts of the public sector to take forward the recommendations.

Please let us know your views. See: [www.wales.gov.uk/improvingpublicservices](http://www.wales.gov.uk/improvingpublicservices) under Related Links

For further information e-mail: [vwpolicy@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:vwpolicy@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

## Top tips for xchangewales eTrading

- Use the Scope & Benefits process to understand the costs and resource requirements
- Build a project team with the right skills & capability; get them involved early - an experienced project manager is a must!
- Get buy – in at all levels
- Review your business processes & change them if needed
- Understand lessons already learnt – contact other customers
- Finally, take ownership of the project whilst making use of the xchangewales team – they're there to support you!

For further information visit [www.xchangewales.co.uk](http://www.xchangewales.co.uk)

## We've made it happen!

The "Making it Happen" course on sustainable procurement offered by Value Wales has proven to be a great success.

In total, approximately 350 procurement professionals from the public sector in Wales have attended the course in the three years since it was launched. In the last six months alone courses have been run for HEPCW, Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust, Coleg Gwent, Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust and Welsh Assembly Government employees in North Wales.

The course is a practical look at how to integrate environmental and social issues into procurement decisions. Delegates learn how to use a Sustainability Risk Assessment (SRA) template which helps identify relevant sustainability issues associated with contracts for goods and services and then develop actions to address these issues

at the pre-qualification, specification or award stage of a tender exercise.

Many of the organisations who have received training are now using the SRA template on a day-to-day basis for example Environment Agency Wales, Welsh Health Supplies, Caerphilly Borough Council, City and County of Swansea, Pembrokeshire County Council, Cardiff University and Welsh Assembly Government have used the template influencing £610 million of expenditure in Wales.

For further information please contact: [stephen.williams2@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.williams2@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

# Telecommunications

**A new Telephony Collaborative Purchasing Agreement for Telecom Voice and Line Rental for the public sector in Wales has been awarded.**



Led by Value Wales initially twenty-four Welsh public sector organisations have signed up. The agreement is for two years with options to extend for a further two years.

Welsh public sector organisations wishing to participate can use a comparison tool following the completion of a Customer Data Entry sheet.

Value Wales will provide a summary report to the organisation, providing details of costs, supplier ranking and potential savings.

Organisations taking up this deal have seen savings of between 7-28% worth some £250k per year. With a total spend of £17m the deal has a potential to save up to £3m for the Welsh public purse per year.

The Customer Data Entry Sheet for Welsh public sector organisations is available on [www.buy4wales.co.uk](http://www.buy4wales.co.uk) together with Step by Step Guidance.

For further details on the Value Wales Telephony Collaborative Purchasing Agreement contact: [david.evans12@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:david.evans12@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

# Computer Consumables Framework Agreement awarded

A new all-Wales Public Sector Framework Agreement for the supply of Computer Consumables has been awarded. The two year framework was led by Value Wales in conjunction with the Joint Procurement Unit Newport.

The Framework incorporates three separate lots, Original, Remanufactured and Compatible product.

Following a cross-sector evaluation process undertaken by members of the customer focus group, the Originals lot progressed to E-Auction. The e-auction proved to be an exciting event with the suppliers being very competitive in their bidding. The 'weighted method' was used at auction, which meant that the suppliers'



rank on the day reflected not only their price but also their quality scores achieved through the rest of the evaluation.

Four suppliers were awarded onto the Originals lot, eight suppliers have been awarded onto the Remanufactured lot and five suppliers have been awarded onto the Compatibles lot.

Full details of the Agreement are available on [buy4wales](http://buy4wales) (see page 3) or alternatively contact: [faye.ryan@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:faye.ryan@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

# New All-Wales print deal gets green light



**A new all-Wales print framework agreement, which is both environmentally and SME friendly, has been let by Value Wales, Corporate Procurement Services.**

The Printing Services Framework agreement commenced on 1 August 2009 for three years (with option for a further year). It covers conventional lithographic printing plus digital printing and all aspects of finishing, including specialist direct mailing and bespoke printing requirements. Mandatory use of recycled paper and vegetable based inks have been included in the framework to help deliver environmental policy objectives. Led by the Welsh Assembly Government, it is open to all Welsh public sector organisations on a call off or mini-tender basis.

The evaluation was designed with the current economic climate in mind. The agreement was split into 'lots' on a specialist and regional basis to encourage SMEs and new businesses to tender - 28 suppliers were successfully appointed.

For further information about the framework contact: [tina.williams@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:tina.williams@wales.gsi.gov.uk)



## Value Wales make GO Awards final shortlist

In June 2009 the Value Wales led all-Wales Supported Factories and Businesses framework agreement was shortlisted for the Government Opportunities Awards in the 'Excellence in Sustainability and Social Procurement' category.

With a record number of nominations for the 2009 Awards making the final shortlist was a significant achievement and acknowledged Wales as being at the forefront of developments in this area.

For further information contact: [brendan.burke@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:brendan.burke@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

## Supported Factories and Businesses (SFB) framework

In place since 1st April the framework was 'reserved' under the Article 19 provisions of the EU directives for SFBs. These are companies and organisations where 50% or more of the workforce have disabilities.



The Supported Factories and Businesses - Frequently Asked Questions guidance document published in January, sets out the various legally compliant ways in which the public sector can engage with SFBs.

The framework offers **Signage** (internal, external and road signs), **Furniture** (Office, Laboratory, Classroom furniture plus tables and storage units) and **ICT E-cycling** (safe, secure and fully compliant disposal, plus refurbishment and redeployment and rebated resale options).

Each of the suppliers hold relevant industry accreditations and regularly win business in open competition which provides the assurance that they can deliver value for money and the added value that leads from their core social purpose.

Monwel Signs and Services were recently appointed as the supplier of internal signage for the new Welsh Assembly Government Aberystwyth building, supplying more signs at a lower cost as compared to the Merthyr office which opened in 2006.

In addition to the Welsh Assembly Government the framework suppliers boast an impressive client list including, Aberystwyth University, Carmarthenshire CC, Newport CC, Caerphilly CBC, Kent CC, Carillion, Balfour Beatty, Network Rail, DHL, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Justice, Cardiff & Vale NHS Trust. The framework suppliers offer competitive goods and services as well as additional environmental, social and economic benefits due to the particular ways in which they deliver their offering.

For further information please contact: [brendan.burke@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:brendan.burke@wales.gsi.gov.uk)



# Gateway™: What's your assurance method?

Are you involved in public sector programme/project management? Read on to discover how Gateway™ reviews can benefit you.

## What are Gateway™ reviews?



OGC Gateway™ reviews examine programmes/projects at key decision points in their lifecycles, providing an assurance mechanism for successful progression and overall delivery, and supporting Senior Responsible Owners (SROs) in discharging their responsibilities to achieve business aims.

Reviews are short (typically 3 to 5 days) and are conducted by a team of experienced peers, independent of the programme/project, who utilise skills and expertise to provide assurance on robustness and the probability of successful delivery.

## Benefits of Gateway™ reviews

Gateway™ is used as the best practice standard across Central Civil Government (CCG) and the UK public sector as a whole, and has measured benefits.

"Gateway™ reviews remain the most potent and useful of all the scrutinies".

Between 2001-2008 Gateway™ delivered over £2.5bn cost avoidance savings for UK CCG projects.

Additionally, further benefits have been derived through cross-organisational sharing of good practices, greater project management capability, and the avoidance of poor practice.

## Organising Gateway™ reviews

Value Wales is the Gateway™ co-ordinator for Wales, and manages all reviews in association with OGC.

Value Wales will be happy to answer any queries you may have on Gateway™.

"I view the OGC Review process as valuable assurance of project development and a positive independent means to steer a project to ultimate success."

## Interested?

For more information please contact:

[verity.andrews@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:verity.andrews@wales.gsi.gov.uk)  
or [nick.sullivan@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:nick.sullivan@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

# ICT disposal – a truly sustainable solution

The Welsh Assembly Government has put in place new arrangements for the disposal of its redundant ICT kit that will see it deliver a truly sustainable solution and save money. A fantastic win-win.

Remploy based in Porth were recently awarded the contract for ICT disposal following a ground breaking pilot tender exercise, one of the first in Europe let under article 19. The tender limited participation to those organisations that employ 50% or more workers with disabilities. Remploy's bid was the highest scoring across a range of critical evaluation criteria.

Remploy's Porth facility will provide highly secure data cleansing of redundant ICT equipment while ensuring that significant economic and social benefits accrue in the Porth locality through the award of this contract. The good news doesn't end there as thanks to another Porth based partner of Remploy, namely Waste Technique, a full remarketing service will be provided that will effectively see the Welsh Assembly Government generate income from this contract and generate true re-use of redundant ICT kit.

This ground breaking approach was only possible thanks to a highly collaborative approach across a number of Welsh Assembly Government Divisions.

It's not just the Welsh Assembly Government who can now benefit from this service. On 1 April 2009 Value Wales let a wider Supported Business framework covering ICT e-cycling, signage and furniture supply. Remploy, and another Welsh based supported business E-Inclusion were successful in the ICT e-cycling category and now both offer a full, secure and cost effective ICT disposal solution that can be accessed across the Welsh public sector.

For further information on the Value Wales framework please contact:  
[brendan.burke@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:brendan.burke@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

# What's on?

The essential place to look for courses, training, workshops and events

## October

[www.pmms-group.com/valuewales](http://www.pmms-group.com/valuewales)

### Pan Wales Commissioning and Contracting Officers Conference

6 October

Millennium Stadium, Cardiff  
[sue.lloydseby@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:sue.lloydseby@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

### Supplier Debriefing

6 October

ECM<sup>2</sup>, Port Talbot

### TUPE (Impact on Insourcing, Outsourcing and Changing Suppliers) and Exploring T's & C's

19 October

Waterton Technology Centre, Bridgend

### Contract Drafting

26 October

QED Centre, Pontypridd

## November

[www.pmms-group.com/valuewales](http://www.pmms-group.com/valuewales)

### Introduction to Procurement

5 November

Waterton Technology Centre, Bridgend

### Materials Management

9 November

ECM<sup>2</sup>, Port Talbot

### EU compliant frameworks, supplier selection and contract award

19 November

ECM<sup>2</sup>, Port Talbot

### Contract Management

23-24 November

Waterton Technology Centre, Bridgend

### Fundamentals of Contract law

30 November

Waterton Technology Centre, Bridgend

# eTrading for schools trial update

The eTrading for Schools trial received a significant boost recently with a growth in the supplier base. Leading light schools in Gwynedd, Swansea and Vale of Glamorgan now have access to popular supplier 'The Consortium' as well as Value Wales frameworks. Gwynedd will roll out eTrading for



Schools to all secondary schools in time for the new school year in September.

Primary schools follow, with a staged 'go live' due for completion by February 2010.

For further information visit:  
[www.xchangewales.co.uk](http://www.xchangewales.co.uk)

# New Food Procurement Management System for Wales



Value Wales is launching a new Food Procurement Management System for the public sector in Wales to ensure food hygiene and safety are built into food-buying. This open access, on-line resource will sit in the new Food section of the Procurement Route Planner (PRP), designed to be a one-stop shop for food buyers and caterers and a useful reference site for food suppliers.

Following the principle of the existing PRP, this new section takes food buyers and caterers through the whole food procurement process, providing information on food legislation, due diligence, food hygiene audits, HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points), food tendering, contract management and

complaints management procedures along with useful links.

This will be accompanied by a new Food Charter for Wales, 'Buying Safe Food for the Public Plate', laying out the public sector's aspirations on buying safe food. In addition, two food procurement training courses are being launched through the open training programme on 'Buying Safe Food' and 'Managing Value in Food'.

This best practice 'framework', endorsed by the Chief Medical Officer, FSA and WLGA, has been developed in conjunction with PMMS. It is the culmination of months of work, with the Value Wales Food Group having engaged with stakeholders from across Wales and worked in consultation with the WLGA and Food Standards Agency.

The Food Procurement Management System and course details can be accessed via the link below:  
[www.buy4wales.co.uk/PRP/index](http://www.buy4wales.co.uk/PRP/index)

For more information contact:  
[karen.coombs@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:karen.coombs@wales.gsi.gov.uk)