

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 6: August 2021

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#### Benefits of Green Public Procurement

Reducing hazardous substances

**Reducing CO2 emissions** 

Improving competitiveness of eco-industry

Preserving natural resources

Promoting the uptake of green products

Redeeming the money



As we head towards the midway point of 2021, I want to acknowledge the busy year we are having. In terms of successes the Corporate Services team completed a heavy programme of work for the MAPP and we are looking



forward to some new developments as MAPP becomes a recurring part of EPS engagement with Education Stakeholders and the OGP Sourcing Teams.

EPS has worked closely with the OGP in the roll-out of a mini competition self-serve option which is now available to all public sector bodies. Instructions on how to manage the process via the eTenders portal is available on the OGP Buyerzone. We have conducted a number of webinars to engage in this space with our education partners.

Sourcing activities across Laboratory, Ag & Vet and Library has been extremely busy, there are 160 projects being implemented by EPS.

We completed the EPS Chemical and Reagents Framework and issued the rollout pack to all customers at the end of July.

EPS is delighted to announce we are in the process of recruiting a number of posts to provide much needed support in the MAPP planning process and communications across the sector.

I met with Minister Ossian Smyth at a recent Programme for Government meeting, he outlined significant objectives that must be achieved in the Green Procurement area. Education has responded well and in terms of green initiatives we have 23 frameworks, 8 of which are already in line with Green Procurement policies. The Minister was particularly complimentary of our initiative in the circular procurement and as winners of the Best Green Procurement Award at the National Procurement Awards in 2019.

**PHILIP GURNETT**, EPS Director

# Multi-Annual Procurement Plan (MAPP) Programme 2020-2022



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Denise O'Malley, Corporate Services Manager

## **MAPP Programme 2021**

Work has been completed on the sector summary reports and I have included below for you the Education Sector MAPP Data Summary chart for December 2020.

We have completed a total of 7 sourcing workshops with the CPBs

in education and local government and 8 with the OGP. The MAPP Category Reports are providing the basis for the Sourcing Workshops with the OGP and other sector hubs with responsibility for Category Management of the common goods and services under the central procurement model.

The reports analyse the education sector spend and level of activity under cover of the frameworks and arrangements available.

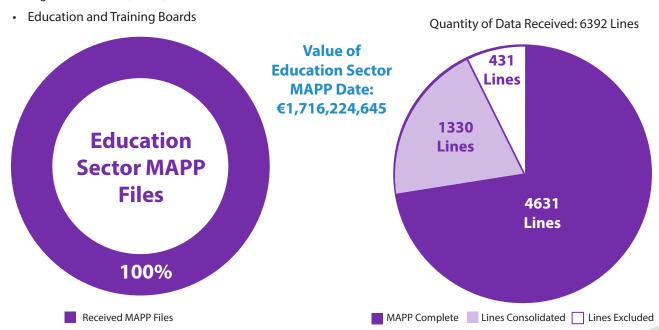
The comparison between 2019 and 2020 shows an increase in utilisation of the National Frameworks. While there are many factors at play here including better reporting and the effects of Covid, the overall trend is up, both in uptake of national frameworks and overall procurement compliance.

We have made good progress with our programme of work for 2021 and have begun the planning and development of the 2022 MAPP template and return deadlines. We will be hosting a number of webinars and information sessions in Q4 and look forward to engaging with our education partners at these events. Details and schedule of dates will be released to the sector in the coming weeks.

Email MAPP related queries to: mapp@educationprocurementservice.ie

#### **Education Sector MAPP Data Summary – December 2020**

- Universities
- · Technological Universities
- · Institutes of Technology
- · Higher Education (Other)



## **Green Procurement**



David Mangan, Portfolio Manager

Green Public Procurement (GPP) is a process where public authorities seek to source goods, services or works with a reduced environmental impact.

In accordance with the Programme for Government, EPS is committed to updating all their procurement

frameworks in line with green procurement practice over the next three years.

Below are some of the approaches, innovations and good practice employed by EPS.

#### **Challenges**

- Putting green/sustainable policy into actionable measures at ground level.
- The measurability and verifiability of good sustainability practise with suppliers and supply chains is an ongoing issue for EPS categories in terms of transparency and accountability.
- Clarity around ranking what are the best ways to incorporate sustainability from a circular economy point of view, i.e. reduce, re-use, recycle.
- For hazardous waste generation (Clinical/Chemical) whether it is better to look at alternatives to incineration,
  - Total number of EPS arrangements 23 Arrangements updated in line with 8 **Green Procurement** Arrangements being updated that 5 will include GP Arrangements planned for update 7 that will include GP 2022 Arrangements planned for update 1 that will include GP 2023 Arrangements that will not be 2 updated to include GP by 2023

- which generates high CO2 emissions. During Covid, a lot of standard waste which could potentially be recycled is going to incineration.
- For Lab and Ag & Vet categories, the area of by-product waste is rarely managed by the supply chain and developing a closed-loop/life-cycle cost system that incorporates this element of pollution is important.

#### **Approaches, Innovations and Good Practice**

- At the EPS Laboratory/Ag & Vet Category Councils meetings, Sustainability and Environmental Considerations are standing items on the agenda since 2020.
- EPS has engaged with leading sustainability advocates in the education sector such as the Green Labs project in NUI Galway, the first campus in Europe to receive certified Green Labs accreditation for their sustainable approach to laboratory management.
- EPS has developed a bank of up-to-date procurementrelated material that align procurement policy and procedures to Sustainability and Environmental Considerations.
- EPS is the education representative on the intergovernmental Social Procurement Advisory Group and the Environmental Sub-Group.
- For tendering, EPS has developed a Sourcing Strategy
  Toolkit which buyers use to gauge subject matter
  needs and requirements at project outset. This toolkit
  has been updated to include sustainability questions
  incorporating equipment trade-in and disposal, exdemo/refurbished model availability, managed service
  vs. outright purchase etc.
- EPS has also successfully engaged with Public Sector Bodies (PSBs) with large banks of equipment at Category Council to encourage them to create asset registers, align service contracts and make available end-of-contract equipment to other PSBs such as educational institutions.
- Some HEIs have mandated that all EPS tender competitions contain a minimum % award criteria for sustainability and environmental considerations.

# **Chemicals and Reagents Framework**

# LGC1599F Multi Supplier Framework for Provision of Laboratory /Research Chemicals and Reagents



The multi-supplier framework for the provision of laboratory/research chemicals and reagents is live since July 2021. The framework provides an easy access route to pre-selected suppliers and prices that are best placed to deliver Laboratory/ Research Chemicals and Reagents to Public Sector customers.

A total of 29 suppliers across 16 lots have been admitted as members to this framework. In order to be appointed to the Framework, suppliers have demonstrated that they have the right expertise, capacity and product range to provide these goods identified in the associated lots.

As the public sector is speaking as one voice by going to market collectively for this requirement, it enables Framework Clients to aggregate Laboratory/Research Chemicals and Reagents requirements over a given time period, thereby ensuring best pricing from suppliers for a range of products.

Public sector bodies can easily call off the products they require through a number of drawdown methods.

If you have any questions about the LGC1599F Multi Supplier Framework for Provision of Laboratory/ Research Chemicals and Reagents or would like to know more, please do not hesitate to contact us at info@ educationprocurementservice.ie

### **Positive Mental Health Day**

As the EPS team continue to work remotely, we aim to keep the positive mental health culture alive in the organisation. The team jumped on board when Make-A-Wish Ireland Charity announced a new cycling event, Wheels For Wishes, to run throughout July and August. On the 31st of July we took the morning off to focus on an activity that helps us mind our mental health while raising

funds for a very worthwhile charity. Delighted to say we raised €410 for the Make a Wish charity!



















Stay tuned to the EPS website, Twitter handle and LinkedIn pages for updates on the progression of Category Management strategy and all news related to EPS operational projects!

For your general enquires, specific feedback or suggestions on how we can improve our service to you, please contact us:

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