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## eTenders Procurement Website

eTenders is changing

The Office of Government Procurement (OGP) is pleased to announce that it has selected a new provider for the national tendering service, eTenders.

Following extensive stakeholder consultation and a comprehensive tendering process, the new supplier will provide the platform from mid-2023.

Buyers and suppliers should be aware that there will be no changes to the current platform during this phase, and procurement competitions can continue to be conducted as normal.

You do not need to do anything at this stage and the OGP will communicate any updates as part of the transition [here](#).

## Introduction



As we pass the mid-point of 2022 we at EPS have a lot of project milestones to celebrate that are both progressing and expanding.

The MAPP programme for 2022 is well underway. Rose Dooner, EPS MAPP Requirements Planner, is building on EPS objectives for the development of the education supply chain by extending the programme of engagement through a focused analysis of the individual datasets with our sector partners and representation of the requirements with the Central Purchasing Bodies, Category Councils and key procurement groups.

In this issue we are highlighting the pathway to realising the Single Supplier Framework for the supply of essential e-textbooks. The innovative and environmental benefits of this project involved the facilitation of remote and hybrid teaching in a sustainable manner. eBooks have been found to be a more cost-effective way of obtaining a school's full reading curriculum.

Earlier this year, I had the privilege of presenting in person at the Public Procurement Conference at the Radisson Blu to 130 delegates. This event allowed me an opportunity to convey the background structure of the Education Sector and the benefits of the Multi Annual Procurement Plan (MAPP) submitted each year by sector institutions and the role it plays in supporting the supply chain model within Education.

We at EPS are thrilled once again to be put forward for industry awards that showcase our talented team members and continued work in this competitive space at this year's National Procurement Awards.

We look forward to continuing our work with the support and collaboration of all our stakeholders across the Education Sector.

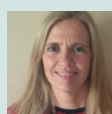
**PHILIP GURNETT**, EPS Director

# MAPP Programme 2022



## **Denise O'Malley, Corporate Services Manager**

The MAPP programme of work is continually evolving to better serve our education partners. Underpinning the work we do is our commitment to delivering results in a collaborative environment. Bringing together the data, metrics, expertise and wealth of tacit knowledge held in the sector will ultimately drive sector utilisation of the OGP central frameworks and arrangements making education a leader in future procurement. This is a timely opportunity to hear from the team behind the MAPP at EPS.



## **Rose Dooner, Procurement Requirements Planner**

Since joining the team in April, Rose has focused on developing a substantial Planning Requirements Programme of activity by performing analysis of the MAPP Reports and engagement with sector partners. This programme will form the basis of the key Planning activities over the coming months.

We plan to continue to foster engagement by sharing individual MAPP Reports with each Institution. Each report provides valuable data including historic and forecast information by category. We will be hosting information sessions in Q4 and look forward to engaging with our education partners at these events. Details and schedule of dates will be communicated in the coming weeks.



## **Maria Cooney, Senior Data and Reporting Analyst**

November 2022 will mark the fourth year of the MAPP programme and in turn is a milestone in terms of EPS collating and aggregating procurement spend within the Education Sector. The MAPP programme has developed greatly within this timespan, in particular the quality of the reports generated from the MAPP Data which has helped to identify areas where the scope of frameworks can be extended in future iterations to address the sector requirements and also spend areas where it will not be possible to comprehend into central arrangements and will require a strategic focus to develop sector specific solutions.

The individual MAPP submissions at institutional level are essential in the areas of planning and communication, no more so than at a time like this when the educational landscape is evolving with the creation of Ireland's newest Technological Universities.



## **Carol Nolan, Data Analyst**

Carol joined EPS in February 2022 to provide additional administrative Data Analysis support to the MAPP programme, now in its fourth year.

## **Carol sets out the importance of Spend Analysis**

Spend analysis is the process of reviewing current and historical spending. The goal of the MAPP programme is to reduce cost, improve strategic sourcing, and increase efficiency.

With this in mind, we have used the raw MAPP Excel data to produce several very useful templates and reports for the Education Sector and for our new Procurement Requirements Planner, Rose Dooner.

- Pre-populated HEI 2022-2024 Multi-Annual Procurement Plan (MAPP) Templates issued in July 2022 - deadline for submission this year is November 1st 2022.
- Pre-populated ETB 2022-2024 Multi-Annual Procurement Plan (MAPP) Templates issued in July 2022 – and again the deadline for submission this year is November 1st 2022.
- Education and Training Boards Sector Summary Report
- Higher Education Institutions Sector Summary Report
- Institutes of Technology and Technological Universities Sector Summary Report
- Universities Sector Summary Report
- Category Reports
- An overarching Sourcing Report which includes a very useful guide to current Framework arrangements.
- Individual Institution Reports

To produce this year's 'Institution Reports', we had to do a cleanse and analysis of nearly 25,000 lines of raw excel data to produce 42 individual reports with over 570 performance charts.

This year we have made the 'Sourcing Report' and 'Institution Reports' more user-friendly by providing a 'directory page' with Excel hyperlinks. The 'Institution Report' comprises a series of historical Performance Charts for each spend category along with forecasted expenditure tables.

It is a useful exercise to review each performance chart to gauge historically uptake/utilisation of the National Frameworks and compare the results to forecasted spend to identify areas for improvement.

# Single Supplier Framework for the supply of essential e-textbooks

The announcement on March 12th 2020 of the closure of all schools, colleges, universities and other training and learning facilities was the commencement of a series of challenges across the Education Sector as a result of COVID-19. One such challenge was the continued delivery of teaching and learning through various remote and online platforms.

To support the seamless transition to remote learning and to facilitate the future offering of blended learning, Trinity College Ireland put in place a single supplier Framework for the supply of essential e-textbooks which could be utilised by all participating institutions.

The team had to work quickly as the time frame was tight for supply to be available for commencement of the College year in September. There were a number of considerations to be taken into account including:

- Defining access levels
- Establishing listing of eTextbook titles
- Future proofing
- Evolution of courses and content

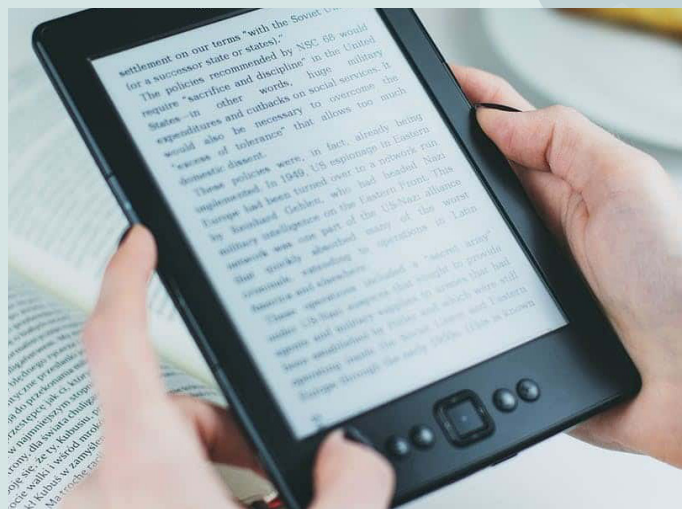
It was agreed that the optimum solution would be a model that offers unlimited access to the entire university with pricing based on a nominal 'core' list of intensive users.



The innovative and environmental benefits of this project involved the facilitation of remote and hybrid teaching in a sustainable manner. This was achieved through:

Reduction of commutes and carbon footprint, reduction of paper consumption and virtual sharing of textbooks to a wider audience.

eBooks have been found to be a more cost-effective way of obtaining a school's full reading curriculum. Schools do not have to constantly buy new physical copies of textbooks as curriculums change, making eBooks better value-for-money and environmentally friendly. The Panel for the Provision of eBooks to the Education and Training Boards was created and its expected duration is four years. It is hoped that this panel will facilitate the ETBs in providing eBooks to their students, extend the



product lifecycle of books being used within the schools and centres, and help promote sustainability and green awareness throughout the 700 sites under the remit of the sixteen ETBs.



**Simon Harris,  
Minister  
for Further  
and Higher  
Education,  
Research,  
Innovation  
and Science**

"The absolute focus of my department is the safe reopening of our third level sector and we have been engaging with all stakeholders weekly. It will be a different experience for students or staff but we are united in ensuring it is safe and our students have the best experience possible. I have ring-fenced €41m to assist with re-opening costs as part of the €168m Covid funding package of supports which I announced in July".

**Reference:** <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/bcd91-a-safe-return-to-on-site-furtherand-higher-education-and-research/>



## National Procurement Awards

### The National PROCUREMENT Awards

The National Procurement Awards provides a platform to celebrate the most impressive and transformative procurement projects over the past 12 months and the teams who drive them.

EPS have been fortunate to receive a number of awards in the past including 'Best Procurement Team of the Year', 'Best Green Procurement Project of the Year', 'Best Procurement Internal Collaboration Project of the Year' and in the 2020 awards ceremony Philip Gurnett, EPS Director and Head of Sourcing Education, received the Procurement Leader 2020 award.

This year's ceremony takes place on Thursday, September 15th, at the Clontarf Castle Hotel, Dublin where the winners will be announced at a live gala event.

EPS have been shortlisted as finalists in four categories including:

1. Procurement Team of the Year
2. Green Procurement Project of the Year
3. Best People Development Initiative
4. Best Education Procurement Project of the Year

Special thanks to all members of the EPS team that put the time and effort into their submissions!

## Public Procurement Conference 2022

The Public Procurement Conference, sponsored by Oracle and CCPC, recently took place in the Radisson Blu Royal Hotel on Thursday 9th June. The event brought together over 130 procurement professionals and those in attendance gained an insight into what effective public procurement means for organisations in Ireland.

Among the speakers was our very own EPS Director and Head of Sourcing Education, Philip Gurnett.

Philip presented on managing procurement across the Education Sector, giving a background of the structure of the sector. Philip spoke of the benefits of the Multi Annual Procurement Plan (MAPP) submitted by institutions each year and its role in the supply chain model within Education and the objectives for the development of the education supply chain.

Philip's presentation was met with very positive feedback and the delegates really appreciated hearing what is happening in the Department of Education.

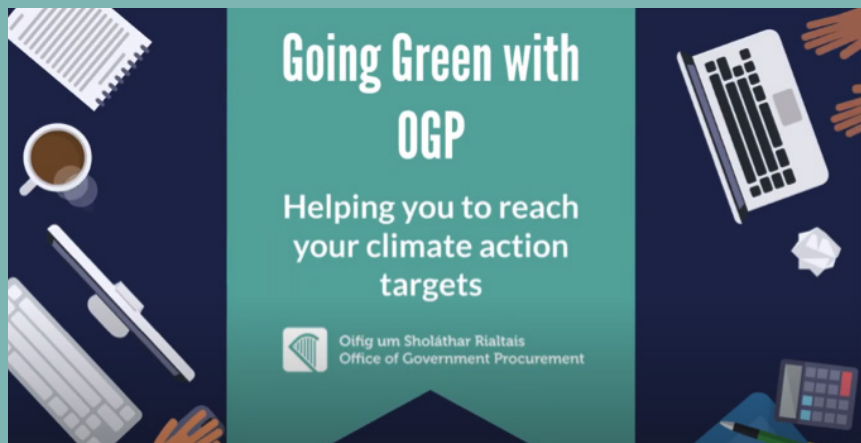


## Go Green Framework

In line with our upcoming entry 'Best Green Procurement Project of the Year' at this year's National Procurement Awards 2022, we are attaching a video message from the OGP's Go Green Frameworks

### Link to video:

Spotlight on OGP Green Frameworks: Supply of Multi-Purpose Office Paper - YouTube



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

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