

Bolton council procures 120,000 wheelie bins

CCS Collaborative Framework | Ref: RM3781 | Multifunctional Devices, Managed Print, Content Services and Records Management



After a past positive experience, Bolton Council approached YPO again to help find a solution for the procurement of 120,000 wheelie bins. Here, the council's Assistant Head of Waste and Fleet Strategy Laura Swann explains how YPO supported her through the complex tender process, set up meetings with suppliers and even helped recover some costs through recycling old bins.

Relationship with YPO

As a manager in the Waste Services team at Bolton Council I began using YPO for the purchase of steel bins in 2015. I was very impressed with the support and advice provided by YPO and therefore approached them to support me with the procurement of 120,000 140 litre grey bins and an associated borough wide exchange program.

The challenge

The size and scale of the procurement was over the EU threshold and therefore required the work to go out to OJEU. Timescales for the project were tight and by utilising the YPO framework for wheeled bins we were able to speed up the process and implement the service changes in time.

YPO suggested issuing a draft specification to the companies on the framework and meeting them to see if anything in the specification restricted them or was likely to cause an issue. This proved to be invaluable in getting an understanding of the likely issues we would encounter and ensuring that we were prepared.

The solution

The procurement was a great success. The Council purchased the bins far

cheaper than expected and by procuring the bins and the exchange programme through one company the process was tightly managed. The removal of the old bins and distribution of the new bins was subcontracted by the supplier but they kept a close eye on the operation to ensure things ran smoothly.

We originally estimated that the exchange itself would cost a significant amount of money but the recycling of the old 240 litre wheeled bins ended up covering the cost of the removal of the old bins and the distribution of the new bins.

The experience

We are now considering using YPO for the purchase of other products as the support and advice provided has enabled us to ensure best value and reduced the workload involved in procuring products and services. YPO respond very efficiently to queries and help resolve any issues between ourselves and suppliers.

The result

- Reduced workload when procuring products and services
- Reduced the costs of purchasing wheeled bins
- Improved the quality of specifications and hence achieved better results