



Key Benefits

- Lower prices than anticipated
- More efficient dissemination of tender data
- Efficient evaluation of tender responses
- Efficient dissemination to CBC council 'clients'
- Additional comparative analysis
- Meeting Public Sector Procurement Requirements

... Key Benefits

Central Buying Consortium

"The tender process was completed simply and the instant analysis of bids offered by the system enabled us to make rapid and beneficial purchasing decisions." - Ian Williams, Purchasing Manager for Hertfordshire County Council (a Member of the Central Buying Consortium)

The Central Buying Consortium (CBC) is the country's largest local authority purchasing consortium, with an annual turnover of £750 million serving more than 10 million people in 17 local authorities, predominantly in South-East England.

The Challenge

Hertfordshire County Council, acting on behalf of the CBC utilised the **UX Online®** web-based tendering system to automate the largest Gas tender of its kind in the UK, comprising in excess of 7,000 meters representing an annual energy spend in excess of £25 million.

The overall goal was to drive down costs through more efficient development, distribution and evaluation of this incredibly large and complex tender.

Benefits and Results

By using **UX Online®**, Hertfordshire County Council dramatically reduced the time and costs required for the evaluation of the tender responses and ultimately achieved more competitive prices.

Lower than anticipated prices: The ability to allocate groups of meters to different suppliers allowed the CBC to optimise prices and the overall cost of energy, beyond what was already a competitive response.

More efficient dissemination of tender data: Providing rapid delivery, including meter and consumption data in a structured format. This provided an efficient method for the suppliers to access and upload data into their pricing systems. Several suppliers commented on the completeness and accuracy of the data provided.



Efficient evaluation of tender responses: Significantly reduced the evaluation process from days to minutes

Accelerating the decision making process: Fast and efficient data dissemination to the other council 'clients' of the Central Buying Consortium rapidly accelerated the decision making process.

Additional comparative analysis: Aided the decision making process The use of the **UX Online®** system provided a level of confidence to support the consideration of new suppliers into the multi-site market. Indeed, several suppliers who had not dealt with the CBC previously participated in this tender and ultimately won business.

Optimising back office procedures: The CBC has identified a number of additional areas that the extensive database of meters created in this tender can be utilised to create additional efficiencies in its back-office procedures and systems The processes employed by **UX Online®** met the requirements of the CBC-mandated tendering practices and policies.

For more information regarding the technical solution please contact The Utilities Exchange Service Delivery Manager, using the details below.

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