



How can Community and Voluntary Organisations find out about Procurement Opportunities with the London Borough of Haringey?

Paul Carlisle, Corporate Procurement Unit

Whilst it can appear complicated for community and voluntary organisations to find out about procurement opportunities, there are several steps that you should take to ensure that you are in the best position to compete for contracts offered by the Council.

Community and voluntary organisations are recommended to contact HAVCO which can provide them with a range of support and development services. This includes direct help to organisations interested in procurement opportunities at the Council (see contact below).

- 1) You should familiarise yourself with the Selling to the Council section of the website - it is important to have a background knowledge on how commissioning is carried out (www.haringey.gov.uk/index/business/selling.htm). Also it is essential that voluntary sector organisations understand the legal aspect of Council procurement, as well as develop an awareness of the culture in this area.
- 2) A good way to look for contracts coming up in the future is to look at the Contracts Register (www.haringey.gov.uk/contracts_register.pdf). At first this looks like a long and tedious list; however a closer examination will reveal it to be a valuable resource for any community or voluntary organisation. Every contract that is due for renewal in the next 18 months will be marked accordingly- you can therefore start to prepare well in advance for any contracts that are of interest for your organisation.
- 3) The Council is currently undertaking a pilot project on a portal called CompeteFor (www.competefor.com). The Council places its adverts here, and organisations fill in an online questionnaire in order to qualify. If successful then CompeteFor will be used for all lower value (under £150,000) opportunities. The best way to ensure that you are prepared for its rollout across the Council is to register as soon as possible. This is a simple process and will ensure that you are notified by e-mail as soon as there is an opening in your sector.

You will soon be able to think of CompeteFor as a 'one-stop-shop' where all available opportunities will be listed.

For help with preparing your organisation to bid for contracts from Haringey Council contact Robin Charnley (Partnership and Procurement) from HAVCO:

E-mail: rc@havcoharingey.org.uk

Telephone: **020 8880 4089**

For any specific queries about Council procurement processes and current opportunities contact Paul Carlisle, Procurement Project Officer, London Borough of Haringey

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