

KPMG Procurement Fitness Check

Background

In March 2012, the Minister for Finance commissioned a review into 'Maximising the Impact of Welsh Procurement Policy'. That review recommended the re-introduction of capability assessments or fitness checks, which the Minister subsequently confirmed would be re-introduced. This is also supported by the Public Service Leadership Group (PSLG) chaired by the Minister for Local Government and Communities

KPMG were commissioned to undertake Fitness reports on all Local Authorities within Wales.

The objective of this work was to determine whether organisational procurement capability is adequate and also enable organisations to identify their strengths and areas for improvement. These assessments include actions for improvement which are to be presented to senior management at each Local authority and a copy is to be provided to Value Wales.

Value Wales intends to provide on-going support for improvement through a 'Procurement Development Service' concept. This support will be linked to national improvement themes that this work identifies within Local Authorities across Wales. The rationale was to assess fitness for purpose of current Procurement activity in terms of Management of Authorities spend, efficiency and Compliance with Legislation.

This report was to be completed by December 2013 and a Summary provided to the Finance Minister Welsh Government

Approach

Value Wales provided the, previously developed, Welsh Government Capability Model, which KPMG used to develop an on-line questionnaire to assess the Local Authorities capability against this model.

Each local authority was invited to prepare a list of staff who would be asked to complete the on-line questionnaire confidentially. These staff were either directly or in-directly involved in procurement and the list was intended to cover procurement across the authority.

KPMG analysed the responses and prepared an initial assessment of the authority's procurement capability (based on the Welsh Governments maturity model). This assessment was then tested and moderated in face-to-face interviews conducted on site at the authority with key procurement managers and stakeholders from across the authority.

The output of this analysis and these interviews was presented in a report, together with KPMG's recommended actions for improvement.

These actions for improvement recognise the activities that are already on-going and planned within the authority and are intended to support those activities and provide practical advice to support the improvements.

Conclusion

The Authority has a Procurement Improvement Programme in development to address the recommendations and improvements