

# Government collaboration to resolve pressing need for national public sector insurance solution

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Without a national solution in place to cover non-life insurance requirements for the public sector, Government Procurement Service (GPS) and Pro5 Group (<http://www.pro5.org>) are now working in close partnership to develop and implement a new national EU-compliant insurance framework by the end of 2012.

The collaboration aims to aggregate insurance spend across the public sector, delivering transparency of costs within the supply chain and cost-effective risk management via access to a range of suppliers. The final solution aims to facilitate better supplier and market management, with improved management of data and claims information. It will also be flexible and fully transparent, providing standardised information to create a level playing field for suppliers of all sizes.

Duncan Spokes, Professional Services Category Lead – YPO (on behalf of Pro5) explains: “This collaborative approach to the procurement of insurance services between the largest public sector buying organisations, will ensure the market is receiving the right message to deliver both efficiencies and a number of financial benefits for customers within both local government and the wider public sector.”

The initial scope of the framework agreement is proposed to cover brokerage and insurance (underwriting). In developing a solution, which best reflects the needs of the sector, the partnership has also established a stakeholder group of customers and suppliers to assist with the contract documentation, specification and evaluation methodologies.

David Pyle, Category Lead Insurance - Government Procurement Service, adds: “We have established the group with Pro5 to thoroughly research stakeholder requirements and develop a joint offering, which is desperately needed to fill a gap in the sector. Engaging with stakeholders early in the development process means that we will deliver a high quality solution, which will be fit for purpose, whilst delivering best value for the taxpayer.”

Feedback from the marketplace has been very positive, involving representatives from NHS, police and local government authorities. South and West Yorkshire Police authorities have also scrapped plans to implement their own solution in favour of the proposed national agreement. This will reduce duplication across the organisations, with the solution to cut time and costs associated with procuring services and introduce a consistent approach to the market.

Beverley Nichol-Culff, Head of Risk Management and Insurance at West Yorkshire Police, said: "Our plans were withdrawn as the scope of the national framework is much more comprehensive, covering many fundamental aspects and services which also meet the requirements of the policing community.

“We have attended various meetings and workshops with colleagues from other public sector authorities, and are confident the new framework is a more logical and pragmatic approach to delivering an EU compliant insurance framework agreement.”

The new framework will be available from December 2012. For more information on the project or to

participate in the stakeholder group, please contact [enquiries@pro5.org](mailto:enquiries@pro5.org).

Notes to editors:

- The Pro5 Group is a partnership of the largest public sector buying organisations in the UK (CBC, ESPO, NEPO and YPO), committed to delivering national procurement solutions that achieve best value and cost savings for the public sector.
- The Pro5 insurance framework agreement is being led by member organisation YPO.
- Pro5 and Government Procurement Service are working together on a number of national framework solutions to aggregate spend and deliver cost savings that benefit the public sector.

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