

Putting procurement at the core of the business

by targeting areas for improvement

Funded by the taxpayer, NHS Blood and Transplant were required to find ways to improve efficiencies and reduce costs within the context of the current challenging economic climate. The organisation wanted to achieve Corporate Certification to demonstrate compliance, improve processes and highlight areas for improvement.



Highlights

- Benchmark against existing processes
- Demonstrate commitment to best practice and continuous improvement
- Highlight areas for improvement
- Gain external and internal recognition for procurement's contribution.

About CIPS

The Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS) is the global voice of the profession. Passionate about and 100% focused on procurement and supply, we exist to drive excellence in the profession in every way we can and provide a wide range of services for the benefit of our members and the wider business community.

“ Working with CIPS provided NHSBT Procurement with an excellent method of benchmarking our current service delivery activities and, additionally, certification has given us a strong platform for continuous improvement going forward.

The experience and knowledge that we gained during the CIPS accreditation process will help us to develop the department for many years to come.

EUGENE COOKE FCIPS, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
NATIONAL HEAD OF PROCUREMENT, NHSBT

Driving efficiencies and cost savings through more effective supplier sourcing and management

Why CIPS Corporate Certification Standard?

NHSBT Procurement wanted to benchmark its processes and procedures to confirm they were up to date and operating under best practice. They also wanted to undergo the Corporate Certification process to gain the knowledge to create strategies in terms of new process development, identifying opportunities and increasing staff skills.

Achieving the CIPS Corporate Certification was also a way of demonstrating commitment to best practice in delivery of service support to its customers, as well as verifying professional status and dedication to continuous improvement.

The benefits

- **Working practices:** Simplified recording processes implemented as part of the process have led to easier, quicker access to information
- **Profile:** The Certification has been welcomed by staff and senior management and promoted across the organisation
- **Upskilling:** Improved training packages have been identified to help upskill procurement staff
- **Morale:** Good feedback from staff has indicated an improvement in morale as a result of Certification
- **Direction:** New initiatives have been identified, including development research areas and knowledge capture processes.

The results

Thanks to the CIPS Corporate Certification process, NHSBT has significantly improved its Procurement Procedure Manual, which will ensure compliance with the UK Public Contract Regulation, and reduce any associated risks. Also as a result of the process, the organisation is now conducting a training gap analysis to give staff the skills and knowledge to effectively meet customer requirements.

ABOUT NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT

NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) is a Special Health Authority, dedicated to saving and improving lives by providing a wide range of services to the NHS. These include managing the national voluntary donation system for blood, tissues, organs and stem cells. NHSBT is a public sector organisation accountable to the Department of Health and employs around 5,500 people through four operating divisions: Blood Supply, Organ Donation, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services and Group Service.

THE BACKGROUND

NHSBT Procurement is accountable for all non-pay expenditure for the organisation. Its role is to ensure maximum benefit from investment in goods and services by seeking best value for money, innovation and quality through sourcing the right suppliers.

As NHSBT is taxpayer funded, it has been affected by government-driven deficit reduction policies, leading to budget restraints and cost pressures. Therefore, the Procurement function needed to help the organisation operate more efficiently and at lower costs through effective supplier sourcing.

CIPS Corporate Certification Standard

Globally recognised, CIPS Corporate Certification Standard is the only independent, comprehensive procurement-specific assessment of its kind. Examining your organisation's procurement and supplier management procedures in targeted detail, it highlights where improvements and efficiencies can be made, ensuring that procurement becomes an essential value driver and organisational influencer.

- Helps you to deliver savings and value, and drive change
- Supports you to demonstrate your potential and value to senior management
- Ensures effective supply assurance and compliance through robust governance
- Identifies better, more efficient and more cost effective ways of working
- Engages and empowers your team, building morale.
- Strengthens your relationships with key stakeholders.



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