

Meeting of
Lanarkshire NHS Board
28 July 2010

Lanarkshire NHS Board
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SUBJECT: PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

1. PURPOSE

This paper presents a refreshed procurement strategy to the Board for approval. This strategy will guide the Board's efforts to get best value for money from all its procurement activities in a fair and sustainable way as befits a public sector organisation.

2. CONTENT/SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

NHS Lanarkshire procures around £135m of drugs, goods and services each year as well as managing its capital programme which currently stands at £37.922m.

There is a strong drive within the public sector to improve its procurement capability. A national review produced a series of recommendations around raising the organisational profile of procurement, reinforcing the governance structures, developing the practices and processes and collecting and making increased use of information on spend. Progress against these recommendations are subject to annual audit. The audit does not measure outcomes but focuses on structure, processes and practices taking the view that if best practice is in place better outcomes will follow.

This strategy seeks to develop structure, processes and practices in line with the national recommendations. It also identifies specific actions in targeted areas to immediately seek efficiencies to support our savings programme. The strategy will be backed by a more detailed action plan which will be monitored by a procurement steering group composed of appropriate Executive Directors and leads of procurement. The audit committee will review progress against the annual audit and national recommendations. It is suggested the strategy is reviewed in 2 years time to ensure its direction remains current and we seek continuous improvement.

3. CONCLUSION

The Board is asked to endorse the procurement strategy.

4. FURTHER INFORMATION

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LA/OD
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