# **BravoSolution**

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## **Kent Police**

ent Police aims to make sure that Kent remains one of the safest counties in the country, with low levels of crime and nuisance behaviour. They are committed to working with the public, the community, and their partner organisations to achieve this aim. They aim to provide a service that responds to people's needs, especially victims and witnesses. In this way they aim to build trust and confidence in Kent Police, in particular amongst minority communities and groups. The Kent Police Vision states: "We will work with partners to create a safe environment for everyone in Kent, where the public feel protected by a visible and accessible police service, displaying a sincere commitment to reducing crime and disorder."

The Procurement Unit holds corporate responsibility for the Force's Procurement arrangements, providing advice and guidance on best purchasing practice, to ensure that all commercial and legal interests of the Force are consistently represented.

«Kent Police have been using the BravoSolution eTendering Managed Service since October 2005 after careful evaluation of the marketplace for eTendering solutions. During that time the system has proven invaluable to the Contracts Team in managing tenders by streamlining and consolidating the process internally, increasing the ease of communication with suppliers, and removing a great deal of the administration required throughout a tender process.

The eTendering package has definitely proven its benefit in Kent Police, and, as its functionality develops and is utilised to an even greater extent, the system's value continues to grow.»

> Janette Willetts, Head of Procurement, Kent Police





#### Focus

Project: Implementation of eTendering & eAuctions

Objective: Streamlining and improving the efficiency of the tendering process

> Contract duration: Three years

#### REQUIREMENTS

### Improve the procurement process via the implementation of eSourcing Solutions

Sourcing a diverse range of commodities and services, Kent Police identified the need to improve the efficiency of their strategic procurement processes, with the objective of reducing the time and effort required for both buyers and suppliers when managing tendering activities. In fitting with the 'best purchasing practice' the Kent Police Procurement Unit recognised the potential benefits that an eSourcing solution could provide to deliver efficiency and cost saving rewards by adopting eTender and eAuction functionality.

#### SOLUTION Implementation of eSourcing web-based tool

To improve the efficiency of their strategic procurement processes Kent Police chose to implement the BravoSolution eSourcing web-based tool.

The eTendering module has been used by the Procurement Unit to electronically manage both PQQs and ITTs. All tender activities and supplier interactions are administered online and all messaging and communications are conducted via the secure portal. By managing the numerous buyer and supplier activities this way, Kent Police ensures that they have absolute transparency, visibility and traceability of all actions relating to a specific tender. Multiple documents have been uploaded by the buyers and downloaded by the suppliers, considerably reducing the quantity of paper required in the process and the amount of time taken to print and duplicate copies of the tender documents. The eAuction function has also been used to facilitate the competitive bidding of a commodity; the process began with an electronic tender and ended with a reverse eAuction. As a result Kent Police realised significant process efficiency and cost savings on a 4 year framework agreement.

#### RESULTS

### Significantly improved process efficiency and successful adoption of eSourcing Solutions

Kent Police are successfully up and running with the eTendering and eAuction functionality of the BravoSolution webbased eSourcing Solution. Process efficiencies have been realised within the Procurement Unit, saving time and greatly improving the accuracy of the procurement process and cost savings have been achieved by managing online negotiations. On the whole the adoption and implementation of eSourcing within Kent Police has enabled the procurement function to succeed in dynamically improving strategic procurement.

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