

UKUPC

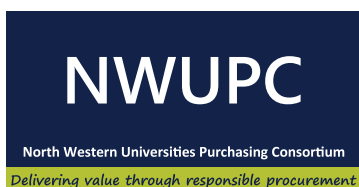
**IMPACT STATEMENT**  
2019 - 2020



## INTRODUCTION

UKUPC is a partnership between eight UK purchasing consortia who created a formal entity to support collaborative procurement within Higher and Further Education. All eight consortia work together to share knowledge and best practice, to support each other

and our wider procurement community. This impact statement shows how UKUPC activities have been supporting members during the academic year 2019/20. Further information is available via the UKUPC website.



## MEMBER BENEFITS, EXPENDITURE AND SAVINGS



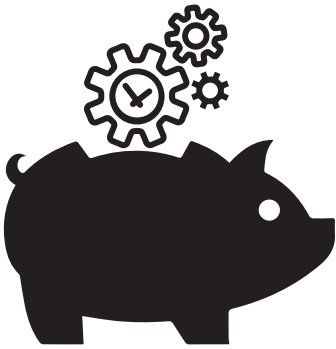
TOTAL SPEND  
THROUGH  
AGREEMENTS

**£1.4BN**



CASHABLE  
SAVINGS

**£74.8M**



NON-CASHABLE  
SAVINGS

**£118.6M**

Number of Higher  
Education-led agreements  
available to members:

with more beyond this from wider collaborations  
facilitated by UKUPC consortia

**155**

Number of new and  
re-tendered agreements  
available to our members  
during the year

**29**



# BREXIT

UKUPC, working with partners and suppliers, helped members prepare for Brexit. We offered support to the procurement community at each stage of the process of leaving the European Union.

The UKUPC partners analysed the supply chains and the impact that Brexit may have on suppliers' ability to service commercial arrangements. We collectively undertook a risk appraisal at framework level across our portfolio of agreements and categorised them as high, medium or low risk.

We worked with suppliers to understand mitigating actions they were undertaking, focussing on four main areas: labour considerations, supply chain, regulatory and commercial areas. From the responses received, we developed a dynamic Brexit Supply Chain Report for all UKUPC members and provided this to members regularly.



# COVID-19

As the world faced uncertain times, UKUPC teams understood the importance of supporting one another to do what was required to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Through collaborative working we were able to:

- ▶ Offer supplies of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and equipment to NHS and government teams
- ▶ Provide the UK government with experienced buyers to assist in developing a secure PPE supply chain
- ▶ Support members to open their campuses and provide COVID-19 compliant workplaces
- ▶ Develop a priority products framework tool to help source essential supplies
- ▶ Provide weekly information on lead time and stock levels of priority PPE
- ▶ Develop guidance for on-site COVID-19 testing





# HOW WE ARE SUPPORTING THE HIGHER EDUCATION SECTOR

## THE UKUPC BOARD

The UKUPC's vision is *'to leverage the benefits of collaborative procurement: working across the UK HE consortia community to enhance procurement within HE and across our other members; helping deliver savings and efficiencies; maximising member benefits; embedding responsible/ethical procurement and social value using a sustainable supply chain management approach.'*

The Board has developed nine strategic aims that it will be working to achieve over the next five years:

- ▶ Be recognised as the leader in HE collaborative procurement.
- ▶ Maximise opportunities for consortium members to deliver efficiencies and add value by accessing our collaborative contracts and services.
- ▶ Work with Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) collectively and individually to enhance collaborative procurement.
- ▶ Enable initiatives relating to procurement, including technology strategies, procurement capability development and the Higher Education Procurement Association (HEPA).
- ▶ Embed responsible procurement across our services and support our members to embed it within their institutions, supporting the sector taking a major role in addressing climate change impacts related to our members' collaborative supply chains.
- ▶ Work to deliver the social value agenda.
- ▶ Promote our activities and successes through channels such as an annual review, consortium benefit reports, case studies and membership engagement.
- ▶ Deliver benefits well in excess of £100m per annum across the UK every year.
- ▶ Deliver or facilitate the provision of framework agreements that can offer collaborative solutions for over 40% of the sector's recurrent spend.

The strategy is delivered through effective collaboration and consistency provided by the core UKUPC working groups:

## **JOINT CONTRACTING GROUP**

Provides a strategic overview of the national Joint Contracting Programme delivery, working collaboratively to ensure that we have the right framework agreements in place at the right time.

## **COMMUNICATIONS GROUP**

Promotes the benefits of collaborative procurement; ensures a range of events are available to consortia members both regionally and nationally; and ensures members have the best practice guides they need to make the most out of the collaborative procurement activity.

## **CONSORTIA INFORMATION SYSTEMS STRATEGY GROUP**

Improves the information systems used by the consortia and our member institutions.

## **RESPONSIBLE PROCUREMENT NETWORK**

Newly established this year, the group aims to achieve a consistent approach to responsible procurement across the consortia.

Outside of agreements, members tell us that a big benefit of consortium membership is meeting colleagues and sector experts, and sharing ideas. Members of every consortium can go to a range of free events that cover hot topic issues and help them find solutions to their most pressing problems. Members attend our conferences, agreement events, tender working party meetings and user group meetings – many of these involve collaboration on national and local levels. Members can also access free and low-cost training through face-to-face courses and e-learning modules. Together, we deliver more for our members.

