



Essex County
Fire & Rescue Service

Procurement Dashboard

March 2024



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Executive Summary

The Procurement Act 2023 Update

The secondary legislation (Procurement Regulations 2024) has been issued in draft but has not yet been made a UK statutory instrument (SI). The go-live date was not announced during March. The statutory instrument provides additional detail around various aspects of the procurement Act. The SI will be also debated in both Houses - a procedural step in the process when laying secondary legislation before being signed into law.

The final consultation response was published, much of the document stated that guidance and training will be updated to reflect feedback and there was only two areas of change that will affect us.

Guidance documents and updated Procurement Policy Notices are starting to be published.

Other Updates

The team have been heavily involved in the new finance system training, training notes, finalising user acceptance testing and data migration activities.

Procurement Training delivered to the Fleet Workshops Team.



Property / FM Category Headlines

Work progressing on the following projects:

- **Wholetime Modernisation – Southend**, Estimated cost £800,000. Modernisation of the bar area, dormitories and other minor works. A heat decarbonisation plan was carried out ahead of the final technical specification draft which is due in May. Preparation of the tender documents is underway.
- **Bay Doors - Planned Preventative Maintenance and Servicing**, estimated cost £360,000, 3-year term with 2 twelve-month extensions, across all fire stations and workshops for the repair, servicing and preventative maintenance of bay doors. Technical specification due back from Ingleton Wood in April, Preparation of the tender documents has started.
- **Mechanical - Planned Preventative Maintenance**. Estimated £1,000,000, 3-year term with 2 twelve-month extensions, across all sites for the repair, servicing, supply, installation and maintenance of mechanical equipment. Technical specification due back from Ingleton Wood in April, preparation of the tender documents has started.
- **Water and Wastewater Supply & Billing Services –** Actual cost £338,490 for a 3 year term with 2 twelve-month extensions for water supply and sewerage charges across all sites. In collaboration with 7 Forces Procurement. Evaluation completed and decision sheet with the PFCC for approval.
- **Vending Machines**, Request for Quotes prepared to be sent out to three companies for 1 snack & cold drink and 2 hot drink cashless vending machines for the Kelvedon Park Muster area. Quotes due in April 2024. Actual cost will be identified through the quote process.
- **Net Zero Carbon Road Map**, Contract Awarded to Laser, actual cost £7,930, to review all sites and create a road map report. Work started March 2024 due to complete in June 2024.



ICT Category Headlines

Work progressing on the following projects:

- **Incident Recording System** – Actual cost of £32,000. Incident documentation system that would have compatibility with the existing Guardian Command Control system awarded following a request for quotation process.
- **Visitor Management System** – Budget of £6,000 - Demonstration sought for supplier scalable solution for Front of House as a standalone Visitor Management System. Request for Quotation process underway to award a desk-based solution.
- **Resource Optimisation Tool** – resource optimisation tool was discussed with Directors for the optimisation of resources to assist in saving fleet costs and resources from placement of firefighters that would improve standard response time. Requested demonstrations from other Fire and Rescue services that use this type of tool.
- **Wireless Access Point Software Support** – Budget of £19,500 per annum - Proactive engagement with stakeholders for review of software support for the Wireless Access Points across the organisation that has identified the access points reach end of life support in 2026. A renewal of 2 years is sought, and future tendering is expected for this requirement in mid 2025.
- **Fire Risk Management Information System** – Allocated budget of £140,000. Award sought after filtered search from the CCS G-Cloud 13 framework for a non-reseller version of a Fire Risk Management Information System.



Corporate Services and Operations Category Headlines

Work progressing on the following projects:

- **Fleet Workshops** – Presentation conducted with the fleet workshop team regarding the financial regulations and procurement processes. Work now progressing on developing a category management plan to tackle spend areas and ensure compliance.
- **Workwear** – Second set of samples received from three suppliers and wearer trials underway for operational trials for staff in Control, breathing apparatus instructors, Colchester and Chelmsford fire stations.
- **Positive-Pressure Ventilation Fans** – estimated cost £130k – Tender awarded, order and contract signed, delivery due by July, this was run by Suffolk Fire Service under the NFCC National Emergency Response Equipment Framework.
- **Layflat hoses** – estimated £58k – Tender was run under the NFCC National Emergency Response Equipment Framework, now awarded and standstill completed, contract being prepared for signature at the beginning of April.
- **End of Life Vehicles for RTC training** – Preparation is underway for premarket engagement ahead of the tender release.
- **Driving Licence checks** – contract signed, estimated costs £15k over 3 years, implementation now handed over for go-live following policy consultation with unions.
- **Drysuits** – Mini competition run from KCS Rescue Equipment and Associated Services framework, currently under evaluation.



Mar 2023/24

SUMMARY SUPPLIER SPEND

Based on Supplier Invoicing

£1.6M

Month Supplier Spend

940

Invoices

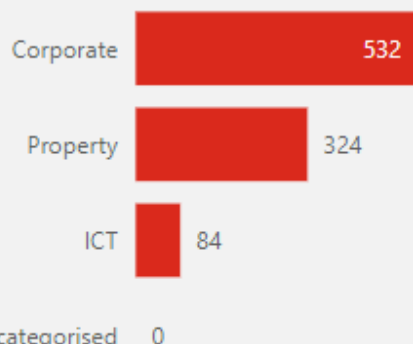
MONTH

YEAR TO DATE

Month Total by Category



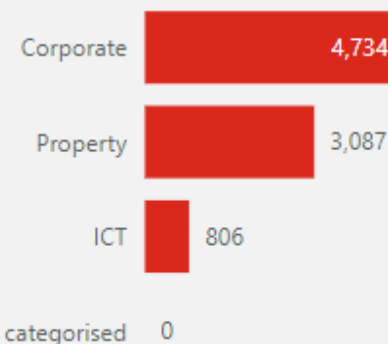
Month Invoices by Category



YTD Total by Category

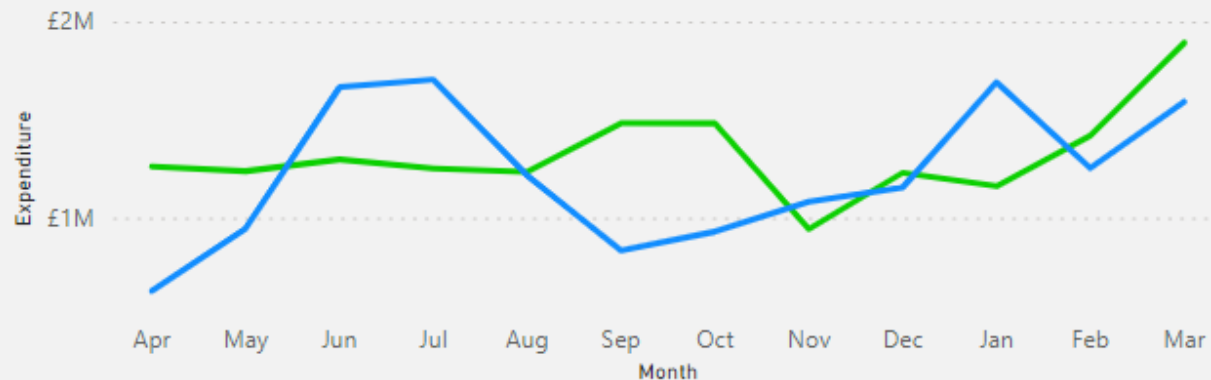


YTD Invoices by Category



Expenditure by Month and Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year ● 22-23 ● 23-24





Mar 2023/24

CORPORATE & OPS

£613K

Month Total

532

Invoices in Month

£7.2M

YTD Total

4,734

Invoices YTD

MONTH

YEAR TO DATE

Top 10 Suppliers (Month)

Bristol Uniforms Ltd Re Bris...	£61,517
Jps Renewable Energy Limit...	£49,952
Certas Energy Uk Ltd	£45,478
Rescue Intellitech Uk Ltd	£27,238
Constellia Public Limited	£25,793
K P Hughes & Associates Li...	£23,155
Fire Hosetech Ltd	£15,996
People Asset Management ...	£15,908
Casnovas Recruitment Sol...	£13,395
Cipher Medical Consultanc...	£13,300

Top 10 Nominals (Month)

Managed Personal Protecti...	£57,552
Petrol and Diesel	£56,215
Asset Improvements	£49,952
Departmental training (L&D)	£44,838
Externally provided operati...	£38,501
Fixed Assets Under Constru...	£38,303
Consultancy Fees	£37,103
Stocks & WIP (Purchasing ...	£34,263
Occupational Health	£30,782
Operational Equipment Su...	£29,355

Top 10 Suppliers (YTD)

Fire & Rescue Indemnity C...	£772,865
Volvo Car Uk Limited	£736,836
Bristol Uniforms Ltd Re Bris...	£706,058
Certas Energy Uk Ltd	£548,442
Pulse Fitness Limited	£167,663
Cmt Flexibles Limited	£143,765
Allstar Business Solutions Ltd	£135,283
People Asset Management ...	£132,942
Constellia Public Limited	£114,114
Fireblitz Extinguisher Ltd (Fi...	£99,250

Top 10 Nominals (YTD)

Fixed Assets Under Constru...	£874,476
Managed Personal Protecti...	£711,686
Petrol and Diesel	£679,235
Risk Protection - EL PL Prop...	£454,151
Stocks & WIP (Purchasing ...	£447,280
Fixed Assets Under Constru...	£333,951
Vehicle Risk Protection	£316,189
Occupational Health	£289,107
Consultancy Fees	£261,952
Externally provided operati...	£244,681

Points to note for March:

- Rescue Intellitech UK Ltd – breathing apparatus washing machine
- Constellia Public Limited – consultancy fees for the live fire training project
- KP Hughes – Fire safety Training
- Fire Hose Tech – hose testing



Mar 2023/24

ICT

£383K

Month Total

84

Invoices in Month

£3.8M

YTD Total

806

Invoices YTD

MONTH

YEAR TO DATE

Top 10 Suppliers (Month)

Unit4 Business Software Li...	£73,759
Computer Aided Developm...	£57,610
Airbus Defence & Space	£55,892
British Telecommunications	£44,156
Virgin Media Business Limit...	£40,623
Civica Uk Ltd	£34,458
3Tc Software	£31,912
Learnpro Efireservice Limited	£9,770
Cdw Ltd	£8,839
8X8 Uk Limited	£5,908

Top 10 Nominals (Month)

IT Maintenance and Contra...	£207,114
IT Communications	£101,496
Prepayments and Accrued I...	£64,283
Operational training item r...	£5,150
Consultancy Fees	£4,140
IT Consumables	£2,812
Operational Equipment Su...	£1,463
Miscellaneous Expenses	£1,400
Postage Direct Mailing & C...	£1,000
Furniture and Fittings	£582

Top 10 Suppliers (YTD)

Airwave Solutions Ltd	£862,959
Virgin Media Business Limit...	£546,435
Unit4 Business Software Li...	£296,269
Dell Corporation Ltd	£175,322
Airbus Defence & Space	£167,820
Civica Uk Ltd	£155,506
Learnpro Efireservice Limited	£133,920
Data Pro It Limited	£105,852
Daisy Updata Communicati...	£90,230
British Telecommunications	£83,282

Top 10 Nominals (YTD)

IT Maintenance and Contra...	£1,483,006
Fixed Assets Under Constru...	£1,130,377
IT Communications	£643,063
Prepayments and Accrued I...	£201,380
IT Consumables	£120,612
Consultancy Fees	£90,729
Fixed Assets Under Constru...	£54,636
Essex Digital Partnership	£48,460
Media Expenses	£10,286
Tools & Light Equipment	£9,075

Points to note for March:

- Unit4 Business Software – Finance System services for the ERP7 implementation
- Cadcorp – Year 1 of web mapping cloud hosted application
- Airbus Defence & Space – Crash recovery system licenses and support
- Civica Uk Ltd – HR & Payroll software license and implementation services for browser based solution.
- 3TC Software – Incident recording system software license and annual support.



Mar
2023/24

PROPERTY

£594K

Month Total

324

Invoices in Month

£3.7M

YTD Total

3,087

Invoices YTD

MONTH

YEAR TO DATE

Top 10 Suppliers (Month)

Pinnacle Fm Limited	£97,433
Oakpark Security Systems L...	£84,613
Rose Builders Limited	£74,952
Balm & Davies Ltd	£41,190
Wagner Uk Limited	£35,213
Beardwell Construction Ltd	£26,500
Clc Facilities Limited	£24,829
Christy Cooling Services Ltd	£24,768
Ingleton Wood Lip	£24,603
Bates Office Services Limited	£23,606

Top 10 Nominals (Month)

Planned Works	£122,203
Int Decs/Alts & Improveme...	£111,041
Building Cleaning	£110,718
Asset Protection	£79,980
Asset Improvements	£78,456
Consultancy Fees	£26,381
Building Maintenance	£19,061
Grounds Maintenance	£17,111
Furniture and Fittings	£12,287
Water Services	£10,694

Top 10 Suppliers (YTD)

Balm & Davies Ltd	£434,577
Pinnacle Fm Limited	£272,315
Bakers Of Danbury Contrac...	£231,422
Pick Everard	£217,934
Monthind Clean Lip	£205,898
Munro Building Services Ltd	£161,931
C S Electrical Essex Ltd	£126,016
Lambert Smith Hampton	£125,175
Gardhams Property Services	£122,049
Northumbrian Water Ltd (H...	£118,626

Top 10 Nominals (YTD)

Building Maintenance	£632,161
Building Cleaning	£601,115
Planned Works	£532,872
Consultancy Fees	£525,721
Asset Improvements	£365,132
Asset Protection	£259,497
Water Services	£255,811
Int Decs/Alts & Improveme...	£227,198
Grounds Maintenance	£123,737
Furniture and Fittings	£103,380

Points to note for March:

- Pinnacle – Monthly cleaning provisions for January and February along with kitchen deep cleans at three fire stations
- Rose Builders – Internal Decorations at Wivenhoe Fire Station
- Wagner – Repair, installation and maintenance of the OxyReduct at Kelvedon Park
- Beardwell – BA Chamber Phases 1 and 2 at various sites
- Christy Cooling – Air conditioning units supply and install various sites
- Bates – Space Implementation Project at Kelvedon Park, Canteen touchdown benches and lockers



Mar 2023/24

CONTRACT SUMMARY

Expiration Period	Contract Value	Number Expiring
Expired	£223,580	1
6 Months	£6,642,988	55
12 Months	£9,067,302	83
24 Months	£11,873,396	104

EXPIRED CONTRACTS

Top 10 Most Recently Expired Contracts

Contract Title	Contract Value
Provision of external audit services	223,580.00

EXPIRING WITHIN 6 MONTHS

Top 10 contracts expiring in the next 6 months by Total Contract Value

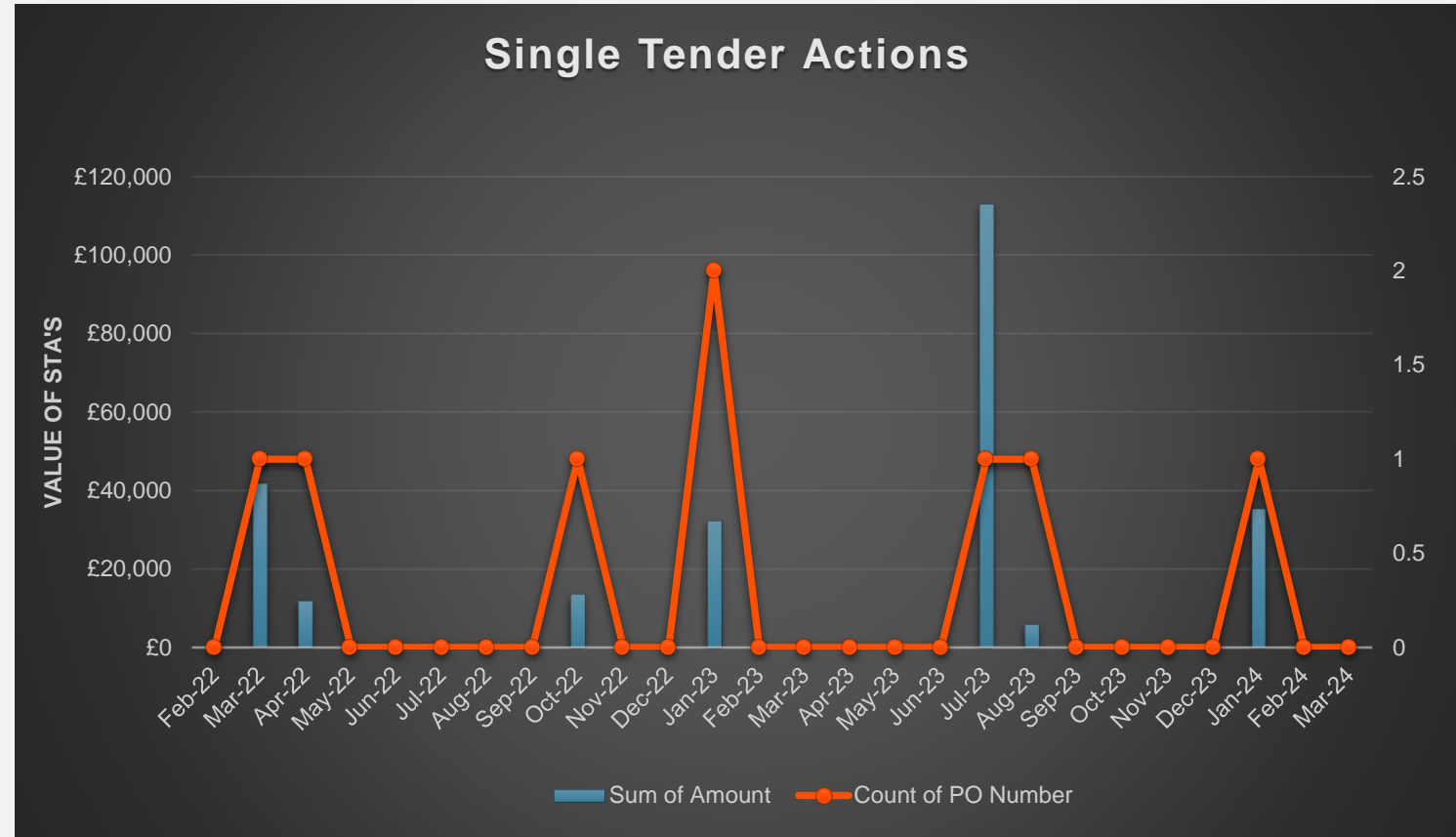
Contract Title	Service Area/Dept	Status	Contract Value
Various Sites - Supply of electricity	Property Services	To finish at the end of term	1,847,840
Insurance	finance	To be renewed	1,267,050
Various Sites - Supply of gas	Property Services	To finish at the end of term	599,020
Contract for the Provision of PHEM D Training	Learning and Development	Under tender	500,000
Workforce management system	ICT	Under review	310,720
The Provision of a Service Medical Advisor	Occupational Health	Renewal underway	242,400
LOT 4 CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF TEMPORARY AGENCY WORKERS TO THE ESSEX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE (ECFRS)	Purchasing & Supply	To be extended to allow RFQ by 7F.	205,500
Provision of HR & OD Business solution (HOBS)	ICT	In award stage	201,740
CFRMIS	ICT	In award stage	170,240
Cyclescheme	Executive Support	To be renewed	150,000

The Grant Thornton (external audit contract) official contract dates have passed but the contract will run until the 22/23 accounts are signed off. We are working with 7 Forces to appoint a new auditor but we cannot sign a new contract until our 22/23 accounts are signed off.



STA Status

There were no STAs in March 2024.





Appendix A - Procurement Savings for FY23/24

TOTAL SAVINGS FOR FY23/24 - £485,730

Cost Avoidance	£325,562.49
Cashable Savings – Capital	£112,700.00
Cashable Savings – Revenue Budget	£47,468.00

Working with Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue to produce timings spent on different procurement tender activities to produce approximate timings spend on tender activity to assist with calculating savings.

For example, when using a framework and conducting a further competition there will be time savings compared to running a full tender that goes out to the whole market. The supplier questionnaire would have already been undertaken and checks completed, and terms and conditions already agreed and in place. We would in this example see a saving of the Category Managers time to carry out these tasks.

Category Managers to work closely with budget holders to report savings where the final tendered price has come in less than budget.



Appendix B – Collaboration Data for Q4 FY23/24

Essex Fire examples of collaboration from January 2024 – March 2024

Procurements where we have joined a 7 Forces contract:

- None for this reporting period.

Contract Awarded under a Framework:

- CCS, BLC further competition for fuel cards.
- Kent County Council Laser – supply of gas and electricity.
- NFCC Emergency Response Equipment – layflat hoses.
- Essex Construction Framework – internal decorations.
- Kent County Council Laser – Net zero carbon roadmap.
- KCS – supply and installation of electric vehicle charging points.

Other Collaboration Activity:

- Meeting with Procurement team and Crown Commercial Services to discuss upcoming tenders, available frameworks and updates on team structure at CCS.
- Occupational Health Technician – Framework leader for CCS clinical framework, supporting shortlisting and giving direction to process for calling off to reduce time on a full tender process.
- Apprenticeships tender – CCS supporting with running a compliant process through their DPS.
- KCS Framework lead met with the team to go through their frameworks available to us.
- Procurement Alliance for Essex meeting - identify collaboration opportunities, procurement act discussions, sharing learning.
- Working with Bedfordshire FRS Head of Procurement to discuss how we can come up with times spent on tenders to assist with calculating savings.
- Process agreed with 7 Forces that their team will follow to checking for inclusion of fire in their tenders and ongoing updates.
- Bluelight Commercial (BLC) – attended KP to meet the team and explain the role of BLC and how they can assist us. Also shared our knowledge to assist with their understanding of the fire sector.