# **AWE Supply Chain Bulletin**



**News from AWE's Supply Chain Management Team** 

#### Introduction

Welcome to this first edition of our quarterly Supplier Bulletin.

We recognise that our suppliers are vital to delivering our mission, and that we need to improve our communication with you.

During 2017 the AWE Supply Chain team has worked hard to improve its procurement capability and in particular the way in which we engage with our internal and external stakeholders. To this end we undertook supplier engagement research over the summer which identified improvement areas.

A further exciting development is that we have taken the first steps in achieving CIPS Corporate Certification. Over the next few months, my team will be looking at how we can further improve supplier engagement and I would welcome your feedback on the bulletin and suggestions for topics going forward.

Carol Williams,

AWE's Head of Supply Chain.

# **Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply**

AWE's Supply Chain work towards CIPS accreditation as a function.

CIPS (Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply)
Corporate Certification is the recognised global accreditation for achieving excellence in an organisation's procurement and supply chain policies, strategies and procedures. By working toward this standard, AWE will further develop best practice processes and procedures that will benefit both AWE and the supply chain. Suppliers will benefit from greater engagement, improved communication and more effective performance management. A key element will be to build stronger supplier relationships where we can take full advantage of the innovation and expertise that resides within our supply base.

In summary, CIPS Certification will deliver value and improvement that extends beyond AWE to benefit both our supply and delivery partners



#### **Head of Profession**

Fiona McGowan appointed Head of Profession for Supply Chain Management at AWE.

Fiona joined AWE in 2004 and has supported a broad range of projects across the AWE programme.

Fiona currently leads the Supply Chain Compliance Team which assures AWEs ability to meet contractual, legislative and regulatory commitments from a supply chain management perspective.

Fiona said "I am passionate about developing supply chain capability and it is an honour to join other Heads of Profession at AWE as we champion our professional disciplines to benefit the AWE programme."



From Left to right: Carole Williams (Chief Procurement Officer and Head of Supply Chain), Joseph Adams (Director Programme and Supply Chain Management) and Fiona Mcgowan (Head of Profession)



## Counterfeit Fraudulent and suspect Items

CFSI video recently released by the Safety Directors Forum.

To help raise awareness we want to send this QR code link to you for the CFSI video recently created and uploaded from YouTube, it can be scanned from any smartphone.



## Supplier Survey

Positive feedback, but improvement needed in how we communicate.

That was the overall message we received as part of our review on the way we engage, communicate and collaborate with our suppliers. In June we undertook supplier engagement research with a range of suppliers via our appointed agency Future Thinking.

The research surveyed some of our Small and Medium Enterprises as well as large companies, examining five key areas: ease of doing business; encouraging innovation; contracting models; performance effectiveness and understanding capabilities.

In general, the results were positive with overall impressions of AWE continuing to improve, and it highlighted that there is a prestige and pride in working with AWE. There were however some areas identified that we need to work on – the key themes for improvements coming out of the research were: better communications needed on overall strategy and forecasting; could do better at encouraging innovation, collaboration and early engagement; more consistency needed in general communication and establishing key contacts.

We are already working on improving communications with this supplier bulletin being the first stage. Over the next few months, we will be reviewing the survey results in more detail and putting in place an action plan to address the priority areas. Don't forget you can also find AWE news at www.awe.co.uk.

#### **SCE Process**

Over the past 12 months there have been a number of changes to AWE's policies regarding the on-boarding and renewal of Suppliers.

It is AWE policy only to engage with Suppliers who are able to demonstrate a securely established business structure and capability in performing specific categories of products and services. This is achieved through the completion of AWEs Supplier Competency Evaluation; all potential and existing Suppliers are requested to complete a questionnaire every 3 - 5 years which is tailored to their scope of supply.

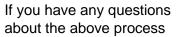
Suppliers are asked to complete and return the questionnaire within 10 working days, if the supplier requires more time they should contact AWE's Supplier Management Team to confirm when the questionnaire will be returned.

The Supplier Management Team will follow up with the supplier shortly after the questionnaire has been sent to confirm the form has been received, however it is important the Supplier contact AWE's Supplier Management Team as soon as possible if there are questions with regards to the completion of the questionnaire.

Failure to complete the questionnaire can lead to restriction of purchase order placement or removal from

the Approved Supplier List.

The returned questionnaire will be evaluated by AWE assessors which may cover Business, Quality, Technical Capability, Security, Environment, Health and Safety matters. These assessors may need to contact Suppliers directly to clarify the response.



please contact Leanne Berloth on 0118 9851744 or email scm.relmanagement@awe.co.uk



#### Forward Thinking.....

- Please be aware AWE's site will be shut between Christmas and New Year so delivers to site may be affected. If this affects you then more information will be available nearer the time.
- If you have a good news story about working with AWE, let us know and it could appear on our next issue.