

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **1. Who can I contact to become a supplier?**

The Devon and Cornwall Constabulary does not keep an approved supplier list. If you wish to be notified of tender opportunities, we suggest you register at [www.bluelight.gov.uk](http://www.bluelight.gov.uk). The website provides suppliers with the opportunity to view all current tenders and apply online to participate in any procurement initiatives of interest.

If your organisation wishes to take part in a tender opportunity once advertised, expressions of interest must be received by the date and time stipulated. All relevant documentation will be forwarded electronically in order for your company to take part in the tender process.

### **2. We are only a small organisation, do we still need to take part in a full tender process?**

Any organisation wishing to become a supplier to the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary must take part in a competitive process regardless of size.

### **3. If we missed a relevant tender, can we still work with Devon & Cornwall Constabulary?**

Once the contract has been awarded the Force has an obligation to use it. However, if you believe you have an innovative / bespoke product or service offering that could assist us in maintaining or indeed enhancing, the effective and high quality policing we provide to the people of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, we would encourage you to get in touch, we will however, suggest you register on Bluelight in the first instance.

### **4. What is e-Procurement and how can we get involved?**

The Devon and Cornwall Constabulary are involved in an initiative called Bluelight, a website listing the tender opportunities currently being undertaken by each Emergency Services Authority. The website allows suppliers to view all current tenders and apply online to participate in any procurement initiatives of interest. All of our procurements are now managed electronically.

### **5. How does Devon & Cornwall Constabulary ensure its suppliers are environmentally responsible?**

In cases where it is relevant, the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary will expect companies to be ISO 14001 certified. In addition, site visits and / or reference site checks are conducted to establish the validity of an offer and to ensure a product or service is fit for purpose during the procurement process.

### **6. How does Devon & Cornwall Constabulary ensure its suppliers comply with their diversity policy?**

Each tender submission is evaluated to take account of all relevant issues. The Devon and Cornwall Constabulary takes the issue of diversity very seriously and ensures compliance in terms of the Race Relations Act 1976, the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000, Employment Equality: Religion or Belief and Sexual Orientation Regulations Act 2003, the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 the Disability Discrimination Act 1997 and the Equal Pay Act 1970, as part of its standard Terms and Conditions.

**8. How does the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary ensure that the goods and services delivered to them are of a sufficient quality?**

In cases where it is relevant, the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary will expect companies to be ISO 9001 certified. In addition, site visits and / or reference site checks are conducted to establish the validity of an offer and to ensure a product or service is fit for purpose during the procurement process.