Framework contract for energy efficient IT equipment and services
Helsinki City Council, Finland

Background
Helsinki City Council’s environmental policy (September 2012) defines the City’s goals for various issues, including public procurement, material efficiency and waste. By 2020, all purchases made by the City should contain environment criteria. To reduce waste, quantitative goals have been set for the first time: the goal by 2020 is to reduce waste volumes by 10% and to improve the rate of material recycling by the same amount.

According to Helsinki’s environmental policy, the material and ecological efficiency of the city’s departments should be significantly improved in the future, and these will be considered in all investments, procurements and notable projects by 2050. All city departments and subsidiaries will be trained to make their public procurement procedures sustainable by 2020.

Procurement objectives
The City of Helsinki’s Procurement Centre acts as a central purchasing unit and manages purchasing framework agreements, such as this one published in October 2014 (as an open procedure).

The tender was divided into five lots which covered desktop computers (standard and power models), laptops/notebooks and computer monitors, and all lots included services. Approximately 10,000 computers are purchased each year by the City.

Criteria used
Subject matter of the contract and description: IT equipment and related services.

The City of Helsinki is committed to operating in an environmentally friendly way and seeks to reduce the carbon footprint of its ICT operations. Therefore, it expects the integration of energy efficiency measures, as well as services which support these measures.

Technical specifications:

- All equipment must comply with the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) EU directive (2002/95/EC).
- All equipment must comply with the Restriction of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (RoHS) EU directive (2002/95/EC).
- All equipment must meet, at least, the latest Energy Star standards for energy performance.
- LED monitors.
- Three year onsite warranty.
- Power usage on use and idle face lower than Energy Star standards.
- Provide a description of the recycling process.

Award criteria: The tender was awarded on the basis of price.

Contract performance clauses:
Repair and maintenance: Warranty of compliance for the following environmental aspects:
- Hazardous waste according to the WEEE EU directive.
- RoHS EU directive.
• During the contract period parties agree to develop environmental issues.

The environmental criteria used were developed on the basis of sound market practices. Market dialogue (done by meeting up with potential suppliers) activities pushed the ambition level of the criteria. The GPP 2020 calculator for office ICT equipment was partly used throughout the tendering process to estimate the energy consumption and operating costs of office equipment and the savings with Energy Star.

**Results**

The framework contract was made with three operators/suppliers and consisted of a 24 months lease to purchase contract, with two possible extensions of 12 months each.

The total contract has an estimated value of €50,000,000 (excluding value added tax).

The total purchases made from the framework contract are expected to yield energy savings of 27% and cost savings of €72,000 over the lifetime of the products - offsetting a total of 172 tonnes of CO₂ equivalents. Forecasts have been made using Helsinki’s last tender, from 2012, for office IT equipment as a benchmark. For information on the assumptions made to arrive at these figures, please consult the following link from the EU-funded GPP 2020 project.

**Environmental impacts**

According to the Energy Star website, most studies report that for an office desktop computer (PC) primary energy consumption during use is more than three to four times higher than the primary energy needed for manufacturing and materials production, whilst the energy costs/credits of waste disposal and recycling are negligible (<15% of production energy). This is the result for a typical office PC, used 8 hours per day (including Standby) over 260 days. In the most recent version of the Energy Star requirements (version 5.0) products must meet stringent total energy consumption (TEC) requirements for estimated annual energy consumption. Small-scale servers and thin clients must meet energy use guidelines in ‘off’ and ‘idle’ modes of operation, and thin clients supporting sleep functions must meet requirements in this mode as well. These requirements ensure energy savings when computers are being used and performing a range of tasks, as well as when they are turned off or into a low power mode.

**Lessons learned**

• The way GPP and SPP aspects are implemented differs from one procurement project to another, but the goal remains to be ambitious.

• It is important to change the way people think in planning and developing public services. Purely making the consideration of sustainability aspects an integral part of the way we work will lead to better results.

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For related information, please see European GPP criteria for Office IT Equipment (currently under revision) and the Technical Background Report. This GPP Example was previously published through the GPP 2020 project, see http://www.gpp2020.eu/fileadmin/files/Tender_Models/GPP_2020_Tender_Model_IT_Helsinki_April_2015-revised_2015-06-15.pdf