

The true value of LUPC membership

One of the more obvious benefits to being a member of LUPC is access to so many framework agreements, however the reality is so much more than that. **Suzanne Picken**, LUPC's Head of Membership and Marketing, highlights the benefits to be aware of so you can make the most of your subscription.

As above, first and foremost, all members have access to our framework agreements, over 100 in fact, which deliver you savings in cost and time and are thoroughly compliant with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. Our members can choose to be fully involved in every tendering process and consulted on each framework agreement strategy to ensure all individual requirements are met.

LUPC also provides numerous additional benefits offering added value and further cost savings; these, in most cases usually offset the cost of membership. Below we highlight some you may not be aware of:

COST SAVING BENEFITS

Creditsafe

A free subscription for our full members to an online, fast and consolidated means of accessing supplier financial data and credit references, worth approximately £1,500 per annum. For further information please contact **Roy Dennis**.

Electronics Watch Affiliation

All full members of LUPC are automatically affiliated to **Electronics Watch**, the independent monitoring organisation for the protection of labour rights and safety of workers in global electronics supply chains. Your affiliated membership, paid for by LUPC, provides you with access to guidance, resources and contract clauses that support responsible procurement. For further information, please contact **Marisol Bernal**.

Achilles THEMis

A free subscription to Achilles' THEMis, a web-based platform offering access to advice and documentation from experts in regulated procurement. This benefit saves each member £550 per year. Contact **Jennifer Smith** at Achilles for login information.

Membership of The Energy Consortium (TEC)

Members have access to collaborative energy buying arrangements for the public sector through TEC. The standard cost of TEC membership is between £250 and £750 per year however LUPC pay this subscription for its full members. For more information, please contact **Suzanne Picken**.

Membership of HEPA at a discounted rate

HEPA is the Higher Education Procurement Association and provides an excellent range of resources, news, e-learning, and peer to peer discussion opportunities for those in procurement roles. If you are not currently a member, please contact **Emma Keenan** for more information.

CIPS Study Courses

LUPC has negotiated preferential rates with Central Business School to deliver classroom-based or online CIPS courses in Procurement and Supply for members' staff. Courses cover professional (level 4, 5 and 6) and apprenticeships. The agreed costs are: Level 4 - £1,275 + VAT, Level 5 - £1,375 +VAT, Level 6 - £1,375 +VAT. LUPC will fund the cost of course textbooks for those studying through this arrangement. For further information please contact **Don Bowman**.

NON-MONETARY BENEFITS

Account Management

LUPC operates an Account Management process to foster greater engagement with its members.

Each member is allocated a dedicated LUPC staff contact and also an executive committee contact. Regular communications are made throughout the year to ensure we fully understand needs relating to your procurement activity. Issues raised through the executive

committee are discussed anonymously at quarterly committee meetings. Your contacts can be found [here](#).

Spend Analysis

Members have free access to a spend analysis tool to manage and categorise your own spend data. Please contact our Systems Manager and Data Analyst, **Michael Flagg** for more information.

Member Benefits and Opportunity Reports

An annual member benefits report is provided for each of our full members allowing you to examine your spend over the past year and identify efficiencies achieved through utilising our framework agreements. Members who provide LUPC with their full spend data also receive an opportunities report identifying further opportunities for procurement savings.

Events and Learning & Development Opportunities

Throughout the year we deliver a range of events free of charge or at very low-cost for members. These include an annual conference and exhibition, category-focussed days, responsible procurement shared learning, and professional development courses covering procurement and soft-skills topics. In addition, there are opportunities for networking in our monthly Heads of Procurement meetings, our new Operational Procurement Networking events, Category Groups and Tender Working Parties all of which are invaluable for sharing best practice and learning and developing together.

For more information on member benefits please see [our website](#) or contact **Suzanne Picken.**