

Designing Health and Safety into Procurement and Contract Management

Environmental Services Association
Scottish Environmental Services Association
Welsh Environmental Services Association

Environmental Services Association

- ESA is the trade association for the UK's managers of waste and secondary resources
- ESA's Members provide essential waste and secondary resource management services to local authorities and the business sector
- ESA's Members wish to be enabled to deliver compliance with relevant EU law and restore to the productive economy more of the materials and energy contained in waste

ESA's commitment to health & safety

- Accident Reduction Charter
- Health and Safety Strategy
- Code of Conduct
- Board level commitment
- Health and Safety Committee

Accident Reduction Charter

- In 2004 ESA launched an Accident Reduction Charter and has since achieved a 47% reduction in RIDDOR accidents
- New Charter launched in 2008 with renewed target to reduce accidents by 10% each year until 2013
- Commitment to share best practice to achieve the industry's 10% reduction target
- Promote collaborative working with HSE and others

A health and safety strategy

- ESA first launched a H&S strategy in 2006
- Revised in 2009, ESA's strategy provides an action plan to achieve targets set out in the Accident Reduction Charter
- The Strategy focuses on:
 - slips, trips and falls
 - manual handling
 - workplace transport
 - machinery safety
 - occupational health

ESA's Code of Conduct

- Binding on all Members
- Key health and safety provisions require Members to:
 - provide annual accident statistics reported under RIDDOR
 - provide details of accident causation
 - implement and review a health and safety plan
 - have in place a management system which follows the principles of HSG(65)
 - identify the director responsible for H&S

ESA Board commitment

- Health and safety is the first substantive item at every Board meeting
- Health and safety is not an area of competition but of co-operation

Health and Safety Committee

- Information and good practice shared freely
- Assisting others to achieve accident reduction targets
- Pro-active engagement with HSE to develop good practice and guidance
- ‘Buddy scheme’ whereby larger operators can assist smaller ones

An evolving industry

- EC law and the environmental regulatory framework are evolving quickly
- New standards and expectations
- Implications for the design and management of new and existing services provided by ESA's Members.

Procurement

- Public waste management contracts must be consistent with good standards of health and safety
- Budgets, procurement methods and delivery must prioritise health and safety
- Soft market testing should be encouraged
- Health and safety responsibilities:
 - the client
 - the contractor

Tender specifications

- Contract design influences the risks faced by the public and contractor's workforce in delivery of services
- Output specification
- Detail of tender information: striking the balance

Risk assessment

- Client must risk assess tender specifications
- ESA's accident data and the HSE Bomel II report reveal that:
 - most accidents occur during the collection of waste
 - the majority of accidents are 'over 3-day absences'
 - injuries caused by 'slips, trips and falls' and manual handling account for most accidents
 - transport related injuries account for most fatalities

Addressing the Hazards

- Vehicle/pedestrian interface
- Manual handling
- Slips, trips and falls
- Occupational noise (glass collection)

Tender evaluation

- Level playing field for health and safety
- Best Value: evaluating the true costs of health and safety
- Bidders should demonstrate:
 - health and safety competence
 - understanding of the hazards
 - methods for delivering high health and safety performance
 - sufficient resources to manage the contract safely

Contract Delivery: a Partnership Approach

- Co-operation between local authority departments
- Partnership between client and contractor
- Framework to monitor and review health and safety
- Contract safety review committee
- Built in flexibility: allowing for contractor experience and innovation

Sharing the benefits of partnership

- Contract delivery should enable high health and safety performance
- Fewer accidents means reduced insurance premiums
- More cost-competitive tender submissions

Addressing the Barriers

- vehicle fleet
- collection receptacles
- materials for collection and processing
- collection routes

Further scope for joint working

- Together, client/contractor could better engage:
- Central Government
 - funding suitable receptacles
 - funding health and safety initiatives
- Highways authority (traffic management hotspots)
- Suppliers/manufacturers (vehicles and equipment fit for purpose)