

If you work within an NHS trust, please switch to our dedicated NHS website: [www.pasa.nhs.uk](http://www.pasa.nhs.uk)

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COMMISSIONS  
 PLS

### Our remit

We work to ensure that the NHS in England makes the most effective use of its resources by getting the best possible value for money when purchasing goods and services. Our prime target is to release money that could be better spent on patient care by achieving purchasing savings and improving supply performance across the NHS.

Over the past five years, the NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency (NHS PASA) has delivered savings of over £1 billion to the NHS as a whole – money that can be spent on direct patient care.

### Who we are

NHS PASA, established in April 2000, is an executive agency of the Department of Health.

We are not a trading organisation – being centrally funded by Government allows us to concentrate on those functions that demonstrate value to the NHS.

Being an integral part of the Department of Health, we are in a key position to advise ministers and Government on policy and the strategic direction of procurement across the NHS. With ministerial support we are leading the ongoing modernisation of purchasing and supply – ensuring that purchasing and supply strategies reflect and contribute towards the achievement of the Government's policies, strategies and priorities.

### Our key tasks

- Provide strategic guidance on procurement to the NHS where procurement is taking place at a regional or local level.
- Provide practical guidance, education and training to those involved in procurement throughout the NHS.
- Promote creativity from suppliers and encourage small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to do business with the NHS.
- Promote sustainable development within the NHS and its supply chain to reduce the negative environmental and social impacts of procurement decisions and increase the positive ones.
- Encourage the introduction of beneficial, innovative products and technologies into the NHS.
- Support the national priorities of the NHS.

### Our new focus

From 1 October 2006 a contract has been awarded to DHL to manage the supply chain services previously controlled by the logistics division of the NHS Business Services Authority and part of NHS PASA. The new service is known as NHS Supply Chain. Further details can be found at [www.supplychain.nhs.uk](http://www.supplychain.nhs.uk)

The new supply chain arrangements have implications on the short and medium term activities of NHS PASA. In the short term, we will:

- establish our relationship with NHS Supply Chain
- support the roll out of collaborative procurement hubs with responsibility for purchasing decisions at a regional level
- focus on compliance and uptake of the frameworks remaining with NHS PASA maintain our eProcurement activities including:
  - NHS-sid – online supplier database
  - eCat – essential information required for purchase order transactions by the NHS
  - eTendering for new framework agreements
- develop the Centre for Evidence-based Purchasing.
- Currently, the organisational structure for NHS PASA is under review. Details will be made available on the website as decisions are made.

### What happens in the other home countries?

NHS PASA has responsibility for purchasing and supply issues in England only. Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have their own health services and supply organisations. We meet regularly with the supply organisations of the other home countries to discuss areas where we can co-operate.

[UK home country NHS procurement organisations](#)

#### Contact

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