



## News release 38/09

6 April 2009

### Biggest savings so far in latest IT e-auction

Forty-seven organisations, including 16 London boroughs, joined forces last week to save more than £10.5 million in the latest IT hardware e-auction.

Hardware worth nearly £49 million was on offer at the e-auction, selling for a total of around £38.5 million. It was run by the Office of Government Commerce's Markets & Collaborative Procurement ICT team with London's Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership – Capital Ambition – and PA Consulting. Ten major IT suppliers took part in the e-auction, which took around five hours, and is being hailed the most successful yet.

Many of the participating London boroughs took part in an e-auction in May 2007, which saved more than £3.8 million for the ten London local authorities that took part.

Rob Leak, chief executive of the London Borough of Enfield and Capital Ambition Programme Board member, said: "We are delighted with the results achieved through this e-auction as it gives us a tangible cashable saving and proves that collaborative working delivers results. I am eager that the collaborative approach extends to other councils across London and indeed the country, as I am sure that there are even more savings to be exploited by working together and influencing markets."

Public sector organisations are increasingly looking for resourceful and innovative ways of buying goods and services. Collaborative online auctions enable organisations to pool their requirements and invite suppliers to bid down the price, while maintaining high standards. Around 400 organisations have taken part in the nine IT hardware e-auctions so far.

OGC's Markets & Collaborative Procurement e-auction manager Chris Chettle said: "The e-auction shows just what can be achieved by combining buying power and engaging with suppliers. These organisations have shown that by cutting out unnecessary costs, it is possible to make significant savings that can be ploughed back into essential services."

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Capital Ambition is London's Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership, established to provide support to London's authorities to improve performance and deliver efficiencies.

London Councils is committed to fighting for more resources for London and getting the best possible deal for London's 33 councils. We develop policy, lobby government and others, and run a range of services designed to make life better for Londoners.



## About OGC

The OGC is an independent office of HM Treasury, established to help Government deliver best value from its spending. The OGC works with central Government departments and other public sector organisations to ensure the achievement of six key goals:

- Delivery of value for money from third party spend;
- Delivery of projects to time, quality and cost, realising benefits;
- Getting the best from the Government's £30bn estate;
- Improving the sustainability of the Government estate and operations, including reducing carbon emissions by 12.5% by 2010-11, through stronger performance management and guidance;
- Helping achieve delivery of further Government policy goals, including innovation, equality, and support for small and medium enterprises (SMEs);
- And driving forward the improvement of central Government capability in procurement, project and programme management, and estates management through the development of people skills, processes and tools.

OGC provides policy standards and guidance on best practice in procurement, projects and estate management, and monitors and challenges departments' performance against these standards, grounded in an evidence base of information and assurance. It promotes and fosters collaborative procurement across the public sector to deliver better value for money and better public services; and it provides innovative ways to develop Government's commercial and procurement capability, including leadership of the Government Procurement Service.