



# Supply Chain Strategy

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## Strategy

## PURPOSE

The College is committed to enabling learners to achieve their full potential. As part of this commitment, we intend to engage partners who add value to our established offer in order to enable progression into further learning, skills and employment.

This paper sets out our strategic framework for the use of sub-contractors within the Work Based Learning and Apprenticeship unit. This strategy will be reviewed and updated annually in line with business strategy and planning.

## INTRODUCTION

Our aim is to build long term partnerships with providers who can complement and strengthen our skills offer and grow productivity. To support this, we enter in to both fully subcontracted (provision subcontracting) and joint delivery arrangements with high quality partners who can add breath or specialism to the services we provide to learners and employers.

The College and the Work Based Learning and Apprenticeship unit has the experience and capacity to deliver a broad curriculum, however, there are instances when a partner can enrich or enhance the offer by:

- Widen participation
- Respond quickly to employer and learner demand
- Deliver a sector offer that responds to local and regional priorities
- Deliver niche provision that supports local communities
- Support the unemployed back in to work with high quality vocational training routes
- Innovative delivery solutions
- Investment
- Provision which maintains the relationship with key stakeholders

## NEXT STEPS

The following recommendations will be applied to existing and future sub-contractors to agree volumes and breadth of activity. We will engage sub-contractors when:

- The arrangement advances and aligns to our strategic objectives and, with organisations that uphold our values.
- All requests for sub-contracting or provision to be approved by the Supply Chain Selection Panel.
- Delivery cannot be provided by the College or the Work Based Learning and Apprenticeship unit, within existing resources, expertise or within a reasonable timescale.
- The prospective sub-contractor satisfies the due diligence process and must be on the Register of Training Organisation (ROTO), deemed of high quality and low risk, and committed to continuous improvement in the learner journey.
- Activity will also be capped at the Maximum Contract Value (MCV) and only exceeded with approval of the Supply Chain Selection Panel.

- Quarterly contract management meetings will take place led by and appointed contract manager and issues escalated to the Head of Supply Chain.
- Where there is under performance monies will be re-paid/ payments adjusted to minimize exposure to risk.
- The following will form the basis of the contract management framework:
  - Income and delivery volumes
  - Organisation capacity and capability
  - Learner volumes (enrolments)
  - Learning outcomes (retention, completion, achievement)
  - Quality standards (TBC)
  - Minimum success rates (TBC)



## FEES & CHARGES

The rates given in our policy relate to our fully subcontracted (provision subcontracting) arrangements. Rates for joint delivery vary dependent upon the agreed rate of delivery.

## FINANCIAL REGULATIONS & PROCUREMENT

Reference should be made to requirements relating to The Manchester College Financial Regulations 2015, specifically section 'Subcontracting/ Supply Chain Management'.

Internal procurement rules/ requirements will be followed and where necessary an appropriate Dynamic Purchasing System will be implemented to enable the establishment of a supply chain framework from which mini-competitions would follow subject to the needs of the service area.

