

Introduction – Susan Lussem, Supply Chain Director

I've now been in the role for over two months - and the time has flown by.

Splitting my time between Cumbria and Warrington I have now met the majority of people from my directorate and a number from across the company.

In recent weeks I've focused on speaking to people outside the organisation.

As part of my engagement, I took the opportunity to meet with representatives from Britain's Energy Coast Business Cluster to understand the opportunities and challenges faced by our supply chain.

I look forward to speaking to members at their monthly meeting in December. I'll also be arranging a number of further meetings over the coming weeks and will keep you updated.

I am very proud to be leading on the behavioural theme of "We are clear on what we are here to do" within Our Manifesto. For me it is really important that individuals and teams understand how their day to day activities deliver our purpose and how our role fits in with others across the organisation. This will help us to improve communication of our supply chain requirements.

Continuing to build on supplier relationship management is important to me and I am delighted that the work already underway has been recognised as outlined in the following article. This is a real credit to the Sellafield teams and suppliers who have worked hard to ensure that this becomes business as usual.

As I said in my previous Bulletin, regular dialogue is crucial to resolving challenges, and as the Public Procurement Notices have concluded I'm pleased that we are in a position where we have opened many workfaces on our site to allow Sellafield Ltd and supply chain workers to work on site.

Conscious we have now entered a second lockdown, the Sellafield site remains open and we will continue with site progress while putting covid-19 mitigation at the centre of everything we do. Thank you to everyone for their continued support.

Finally, as always please contact the Supply Chain Development team with any questions and take care.

Leading the way in supplier relationships

Our approach to supplier relationships has been described as 'outstanding' by the Government's lead on the subject.

Stephen Duckworth, head of supplier relationship management (SRM) at the Cabinet Office said our SRM programme is "setting the future direction" for UK industry.

His comments came as our supply chain directorate was recognised in the State of Flux 2020 benchmarking index.

On behalf of the SRM team Stuart Wilson, SRM lead said: "It's the result of years of collaborative hard work. In January 2018, we set ourselves the challenge of putting in place a 'best in class' SRM programme.

"This reflected the Government's recognition of the importance of contract and performance focus whilst working more closely with suppliers and developing deeper strategic relationships.

"Our approach involved analytically sorting suppliers using a robust segmentation model into four segments: levels one to four, with the most strategically important grouped together in level one.

"That gave us an initial framework to prioritise who to work more closely with, allowing us to release more value out of these relationships to the benefit of Sellafield Ltd and the suppliers themselves."

Progress has been rapid. In year one, we were rated two (beginner), in 2019 we jumped to a four rating (fast follower) and this year we're 5.3: class leaders. "The process is maturing and becoming embedded as business as usual," adds Stuart.

"At the heart of the model is an IT system called Supplierbase. This allows mutual transparency for all level one relationships so we can share key data points like engagement and governance, people, technology, KPIs, tracking, risk and value release.

"It has been a really rewarding journey. The process is maturing, becoming embedded as business as usual, and driving real transformational change, especially as we additionally move towards more collaborative working with those recognised as level 2 relationships."

Mr Duckworth said: "The team at Sellafield have really understood the core principles of SRM and have worked with others to produce an outstanding programme.

"The Government Commercial Function is committed to seeing real innovation in this area and organisations such as Sellafield that really commit are truly setting the future direction."

Framework award

The Enabling Innovation Framework 4 has been awarded by Sellafield Ltd. The Framework scope covers initial identification of a business need through problem definition and the provision of focused technical and digital support / solutions and subsequent support to key decision making.

The Framework is focused on the enabling of innovation rather than the delivery of innovation i.e. developing the parameters and mechanisms which will allow the achievement of innovation.

The Framework has a maximum value of £19m over a period of a maximum of four years, and the ten Enabling Innovation Framework Supply Chain Partners are:

C Spencer Ltd	Eadon Consulting Ltd
NSG Environmental Ltd	Jacobs Clean Energy Ltd
Ove Arup and Partners Ltd	Cavendish Nuclear Ltd
Quintessa Ltd	Frazer-Nash Consultancy Ltd
Red Engineering Ltd	Westlakes Engineering Ltd

Duncan Steel, Chief Technology Officer said: "The Enabling Innovation Framework brings together supply chain partners with broad experience and expertise to provide input, innovation and challenge to Sellafield Ltd. We look forward to working with the supply chain partners in a collaborative manner to deliver both strategic and tactical value in support of the organisational mission."

Public Procurement Notices

Since the effects of Covid-19 first became apparent to our operations in March we have worked collaboratively with our supply chain to ensure the impact was mitigated.

We are proud of the strong relationships which enabled us to maintain safe and secure operations and then safely re-open workfaces from mid-May across our site, allowing both Sellafield Ltd and supply chain employees to return to work. Our response to Covid-19 included providing significant support to the supply chain and the workforces who rely on us.

Public Procurement Notices 02/20 and 04/20 were introduced by the Government and implemented by the business earlier in the year to cover the period up 31st October. This enabled Sellafield Ltd to support the supply chain while we restarted work on site and ensured that the restarted work could continue.

Working with our supply chain Employers and Trade Unions we have developed working arrangements that have secured jobs. We have changed the geography of the site drastically to put Covid-19 mitigation at the heart of everything we do and thank you for your efforts in complying with the new normal on site.

This support provided by PPN 02/20 and 04/20 ensured our supply chain employees received enhanced payments, above and beyond the statutory payments that much of the country were provided with.

However, the PPNs were always intended to only cover the period during which we re-set ourselves, and as PPN 04/20 expired on 31st October 2020 those enhanced payments will no longer be supported.

We would like to thank our suppliers for their continued support through these unprecedented times.

As always, should you have questions or concerns please contact your relevant category manager.

Alan Hartley, Head of Procurement & Supply Chain Delivery

Learning from Covid-19

We continue to receive feedback from our suppliers regarding our relationship during Covid-19. We caught up with Carl Carruthers, Framework Manager for The Decommissioning Alliance (TDA).

The TDA is responsible for Lot 2 of the Decommissioning Delivery Partnership covering legacy ponds.

Carl said: "TDA's operational experience of working with Sellafield during Covid-19 was class leading.

"Effective daily communication channels at strategic, tactical and operational levels across our respective organisations enabled us to provide real time information for robust decision making to continue.

"These sentiments were reflected across all tiers of our organisation who felt informed and empowered to contribute under the most challenging circumstances.

"The application of the commercial framework laid out within the NDA guidance notes was executed as intended. This required trust to be exercised by both Sellafield and TDA and mutual value was demonstrated by retention of key capability.

"The supplier Relationship Management programme has worked exceptionally well. We already had a Joint Business Plan in place with well-defined mutual benefit protocols established.

"We managed to build on this strength and despite Covid-19 constraints, build our second iteration of the Joint Business Plan to provide protocols to maximise mutual benefit over the remaining DDP Framework term.

"This has the aim of embedding the learning to date across other operational areas and exploring other critical business relationships out with our own to harness the maximum potential across Retrievals and Remediation Value Streams.

"The Site Overarching Acquisition Strategy is currently being developed by Sellafield Ltd and socialised to ensure future capability to continue the longer-term mission.

"Early engagement with the supply chain that allows a structured process to capture the learning as a result of Covid-19 will prove invaluable to ensure robustness in procurement strategy and resilience within the supply chain who can then tailor their services to meet the demand of our Client."

SME Forum

The next SME forum is scheduled for 15 December 2020 which will be held virtually. If you are an EU defined Small to Medium Enterprise and are interested in attending please get in touch via email at supply.chain.enquiries@sellafieldsites.com

Update from our Chief of Staff, Emma-Jayne Gooch – 30 October 2020 – to view the video please click [here](#)

Updates and Announcements

Reminder - for any updates and our latest announcements please visit our website [here](#)

Contract Opportunities

The week commencing 9 November we will be issuing the tender for High Integrity Stainless Steel Racks.

You can check for live contract opportunities via our Complete Tender Management system (CTM), visit [here](#) and click on '**current tender opportunities**' on the home page.

We also issue a round-up of recent cross sector contract opportunities on a weekly basis via LinkedIn, therefore please follow us at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/sellafield-ltd/>

