

# BOROUGH OF POOLE VISION WAS TO USE TECHNOLOGY TO TRANSFORM THE WAY EVERYONE IN THE COUNCIL WORKS

Local councils have always faced a balancing act between providing good quality public services while operating within financial constraints. But in recent years, the need to achieve more with less has become more urgent than ever. One area where efficiencies are being successfully introduced without affecting frontline services is procurement.

## The Challenge

Following a comprehensive review of its procurement processes, Borough of Poole saw an opportunity to save time and money by improving its control over spend, and standardising and streamlining procurement practices.

The council created a dedicated project team to evaluate several procurement technologies, and selected Procsolve (a Basware company) for its user-friendliness and strategic fit as the chosen platform provider for the Government eMarketplace.

Using Procsolve's (now Basware's) Purchase to Pay (P2P) and eMarketplace technologies, the unitary council has embarked on an ambitious strategy to transform procurement across its business and service delivery units, allowing them to spend less on the task of procurement and more on delivering services for the benefit of its constituents.

## The Solution

The technology now provides the council the means to purchase and pay for goods and services online, from centralised supplier catalogues, at pre-negotiated prices. The council's 2,250 staff can now directly purchase the goods and services they need – from stationery and traffic cones to car hire and translation services – quickly, easily and with minimal paperwork.

The result: improved compliance, reduced burden on business support teams, and much greater visibility of the authority's procurement spend. Which, as well as enabling improved overall financial management, also provides the council with more detailed and accurate information to use in contract negotiations.

## Reducing Off-contract Spend

The Procsolve Commerce Network (now the Basware Commerce Network) allows the council to harness its group buying power, ensuring that goods and services are purchased at the best possible prices. By conducting procurement transactions through a single platform, using only suppliers that have been set up in a controlled way, the council is able to ensure greater compliance with corporate contracts.

*"Improving efficiency is no longer a nice-to-have; it is mission critical, and a key consideration for everything we do."*

**Adam Richens**

Chief Financial Officer, Borough of Poole



## Customer

Borough of Poole

## Industry

Local Authority/Government

## Location

Borough of Poole in Dorset, England

## Procsolve (now Basware's) solutions in use

eMarketplace

P2P Lite (Ariba)



“The technology we’re rolling out will ensure that all our staff buy from the right contracts at the right prices. By reducing off contract spend and increasing back-office efficiency, we are freeing up resources that can be redeployed to front-line services. That is very exciting.”

Adam Richens, Chief Financial Officer,  
Borough of Poole.

### Improving Management Visibility

The solution makes it easy to analyse user activity and purchasing behaviours, and to monitor expenditure at supplier level, all within a fully secure system. Automated workflows ensure that the council’s financial regulations are observed, authorisation levels are harmonised and ownership of trade spend cost centres is clarified. Thanks to this improvement in compliance, Borough of Poole is now able to routinely approve spend commitments before actually placing orders with suppliers.

### Vision and Expected Benefits

Procsolve’s (now Basware’s) eMarketplace and P2P technologies are central to achieving Borough of Poole’s strategic objective and delivering efficiencies in its procurement of goods and services. By implementing a secure system that allows organisational rules to be configured, the council is empowering each of its employees to requisition the goods and services they need, when they need them, from on-contract suppliers at pre-negotiated prices.

When fully deployed to cover all Borough of Poole’s £111 million annual procurement spend, the council predicts it will see further savings by reducing off-contract spend.

“Our vision was to use technology to transform the way everyone on the council works, and deliver real cost and time savings, and Procsolve is a fundamental enabler to realising that.”

Adam Richens, Chief Financial Officer,  
Borough of Poole.



### Borough of Poole Council

16 Wards

147,600 (est.) population

18 service units

2,250 staff

£111 million annual procurement budget

Basware is the global leader in providing purchase-to-pay and e-invoicing solutions in the world of commerce. We empower companies to unlock value across their financial operations by simplifying and streamlining key financial processes. Our Basware Commerce Network enables easy collaboration between buyers and suppliers of all sizes. With Basware, businesses can introduce completely new ways of buying and selling to achieve significant cost savings and boost their cash flow.

Find out how Basware helps money move more easily and lets commerce flow at [www.basware.com](http://www.basware.com)

<https://twitter.com/basware> | [www.facebook.com/BaswareCorporation](https://www.facebook.com/BaswareCorporation) | [www.linkedin.com/company/basware](https://www.linkedin.com/company/basware)



[www.basware.com](http://www.basware.com)

© Copyright 2015

Basware Corporation