



## **PUBLIC SECTOR FOOD PROGRAMME PROJECT**

Just before Christmas, I was invited to HM Treasury's offices to meet a representative of the Office of Government Commerce (OGC), which is a new department that pulls together buying across all of the different Government departments. In particular, I met Mike Tiddy who is responsible for the food procurement part of OGC and across all of the public sectors including schools, hospitals, MOD, prisons and other Government departments.

The Government is buying around £2 billion worth of food per annum. He recommended that I should sit on a Food Programme Project Group that are looking at improving how food is bought particularly in the Department for Children, Schools and Families. I will be the only industry representative on the Board as it's difficult to invite industry representatives to be part of the team because of anti competition rules. The Board are looking at how they can make the buying process more efficient and their brief is to advise the devolved buying teams on how they can become more effective. They will be looking into areas such as common specifications across different departments and how they manage demand management processes and systems.

The first meeting is being held at the end of January and I will know an awful lot more about the project once I've attended the first meeting.

BFFF  
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