



## **Procurement Project Group Terms of Reference**

### **Purpose**

The group is one of a number set up to support the work of the Ethnic Minority Employment Task Force (EMETF). It aims to carry forward the Task Force's priority to promote race equality in the workplace through public procurement. Given the trend across government towards addressing equality issues more widely, we propose to consider actions to promote equality through procurement, rather than race equality

### **Objectives of the group**

#### **The group will:**

1. Agree an action plan to promote equality of opportunity through procurement, following on from the NEP's Buying Smarter report, with an aim to incorporating measures into new contracting arrangements resulting from the Freud review and Flexible New Deal
2. Consider further measures to promote supplier diversity within the DWP supplier base.
3. Consider the findings of the Business Commission report on ways to increase the recruitment, retention and progression of ethnic minorities in the private sector in relation to public procurement and take them forward across government.
4. Work with the Equality and Human Rights Commission to develop practical guidance on procurement and the public sector duties on equality.

### **Confidentiality**

We are keen that members of the Task Force Project Groups feel able to speak freely and openly. In order to encourage frank and open dialogue and the sharing of information, we propose that the group be held under Chatham House rules, which state *When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.*

### **Frequency of Procurement Project Group meetings:**

The project group will meet quarterly, or more frequently if deemed necessary by the chair.