

Good food at great prices for in house caterers



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Who we are

We are public sector in house caterers who buy our food and light equipment collaboratively and professionally. The collaboration includes schools, universities and care services based in London or on the outskirts. Our work is lead by Gerry Clinton, Catering and Traded Service Manager at the London Borough of Havering. A full list of participants is at the end of this document.

"We buy together for quality and sustainability at a price we can afford"

Gerry Clinton, London Borough of Havering
Catering and Traded Service Manager



What we do

Our objective is to buy good food – tasty, healthy and sustainable – at a fair price. Together we buy over £15 million pounds a year of food and light equipment. Agreements run for four years and comply with European Union procurement law. All suppliers go through a rigorous competitive tender process which includes compliance with all health, safety and other legal requirements.

Agreements are either with one supplier or based on a framework agreement with a number of approved suppliers. Prices are usually held for three or six months depending on the agreement. A full list of active agreements and current prices of some core lines are at end of this document.

"Buying together meant we accessed food from accredited systems that helped us achieve Food for Life status"

Martin Jordan, London Borough of
Waltham Forest Group Manager Catering



What is important to us

From 2009 to 2011 we worked closely with Sustain: The alliance for better food and farming identifying and buying more sustainable food as part of the Mayor of London's food strategy. We want to make good food accessible to all public sector in house caterers. We believe buying together makes us more efficient and examples of our achievements include:

- Marine Stewardship Council certified sustainable fish as standard.¹
- Free range eggs as standard.
- Red Tractor meat, Halal and non-Halal as standard.²
- RSPCA Freedom Food poultry available.³
- Many of us are also involved in the Food for Life scheme.⁴



Credit: RSPCA Freedom Foods

1. The Marine Stewardship Council is a third party traceable eco label awarded to sustainable wild fisheries. www.msc.org

2. Red Tractor is a farm assurance scheme that ensures legal standards are met. www.redtractor.org.uk

3. RSPCA Freedom Food is a third party assurance scheme with guidelines for animal welfare standards higher than the legal minimum. www.rspca.org.uk/freedomfood/aboutus/-/article/FF_AboutUs

4. The Food for Life Partnership uses food as a way to improve the whole school experience. www.foodforlife.org.uk

Want to reap the benefits?

If you are interested in joining the consortium contact Gerry Clinton by email: gerry.clinton@haverling.gov.uk. The collaborative group is funded by a 0.5% charge on all food bought under the group's contracts. The 0.5% is incorporated in the costs detailed in these documents and paid by the suppliers. There is no paperwork for you. The 0.5% funds a professional food buyer accountable to you, working on your behalf.

Other Services

The London Borough of Havering can also provide additional services, for example:

- full nutritional analysis of menu plans compliant with Food for Life Bronze and Food for Life Silver. The ingredients can all be bought through the consortium contracts.
- marketing material created for schools to promote your service and increase custom.

Please contact Gerry Clinton for more information, including the costs of these services.

Examples of contracts available

Prices include a 0.5% charge collected by the supplier payable to the consortium for running costs.

Prices are correct as of March 2012. Prices change on a six monthly basis. Please check for up to date pricing.

Meat contract, framework agreement

Product	Unit of measure	Price	Comments
Beef mince	1kg	£2.56	contains 15% heart
Beef mince	1kg	£3.85	
Chicken Fillet 3oz	each	£0.42	
Chicken thighs	1Kg	£1.95	

Fruit and Vegetable contract, framework agreement

Product	Unit of measure	Price
Potatoes Mids	Kg	£0.97
Carrots	Kg	£0.49
Bananas Large	Kg	£1.49
Bananas Fairtrade	Kg	£1.41
Tomatoes	Kg	£1.29

Grocery contract, sole supply

Product	Unit of measure	Price
Free Range Eggs	60	£8.53
Mild Cheese	5kg	£3.56
Long Grain Rice	5kg	£4.83
Reduced Sugar Baked Beans	6x 2.25kg	£9.97
Chopped Tomatoes	6x 2.25kg	£9.74

Frozen contract, sole supply

Product	Unit of measure	Price
Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) fish fingers	1x 120	£10.38
Sweetcorn	2.5kg	£3.02
MSC Wholemeal Breaded Salmon Portion	1x 48	£19.34
Peas	2.5kg	£3.65

Who's involved?

Organisation	Comments	Meat	Fruit & Veg	Grocery	Frozen	Bread	Milk	Disposables	Kitchen Maintenance	Light Equipment
Barking and Dagenham		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Camden										✓
Ealing				✓	✓					
Enfield		✓	✓							
Greenwich		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Hammersmith and Fulham (some schools)				✓	✓					
Haringey (care homes)										
Havering	Food for Life Silver	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hillingdon (some schools)				✓	✓					✓
Hounslow			✓	✓						✓
London Universities Catering Association		✓								
Newham			✓			✓		✓		✓
Redbridge (council offices)			✓	✓						
Sutton	Food for Life Silver						✓			
Thurrock Unitary Authority	Food for Life Bronze	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tower Hamlets	Food for Life Bronze	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
Waltham Forest	Food for Life Bronze	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓