Gaynor is Director of JERA Consulting a UK based consultancy specialising in demand driven innovation. She passionate about the potential of procurement to drive innovation in the supply chain in order to improve public services, address social challenges and create economic opportunities.

With over 18 years of experience as an independent consultant, she has worked in the field of innovation procurement since 2005 engaging both municipal authorities and the healthcare sector in the adoption of procurement approaches to stimulate supply-side innovation. In her role working as Consultant Programme Manager for the UK Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) and the UK Department of Health she was responsible for developing the Forward Commitment Procurement (FCP) model of innovation procurement and has initiated and managed numerous successful FCP demonstration projects. As part of the coordination team for a number of European projects, she has helped to implement innovation procurement projects and engaged in capacity building activities across Europe. Gaynor is a frequent speaker at innovation procurement events and has been invited to join a number of innovation procurement related projects as an independent advisor, including the PPI Platform Advisory Group

Other relevant experience includes working with the Prince of Wales Corporate Leaders Group on Climate Change and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills to develop joint public-private low carbon procurement compacts, designed to demonstrate demand for low carbon goods and services and engage industry in dialogue with major customers.

A graduate of Imperial College, earlier in her career Gaynor worked as a policy analyst and manager of grant programmes for the UK Science and Engineering Research Council, the UK Research Councils European Office and the World Wide Fund for Nature and has considerable experience in project and programme evaluation and of working in a European context.

Selection of relevant experience relating to Innovation Procurement

Expert roles

Member of High Level Advisory Group, Innovation Procurement Policy Mutual Learning Exercise, under the Policy Support Facility of Horizon 2020, DG Research, December 2016 – July 2017.

Member PPI Platform Advisory Group, DG Growth, 2012-14

Project Lead, University of Cambridge Programme for Sustainability Leadership, Public-private procurement compacts for low carbon goods and services (2009-2011).

Forward Commitment Procurement Programme Manager, Department of Business Innovation and Skills, BIS, UK, (2008-2009) and Innovation for Sustainability Programme Manager (2009-2010)

Policy and Programme Officer, Environmental Innovations Advisory Group Secretariat, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) UK (2005-2008.)

Trainer for organisations such as Resource Efficiency Yorkshire, South West Regional Development Agency, Bristol City Council, Birmingham City Council, Swindon City Council, Wakefield District Housing, Innovation Agency (NHS), various NHS Trusts.

European Projects

LCB-HEALTHCARE, Coordination Team (2009-2012). EcoQUIP, Coordination Team (2012-2016). TRANSFORM, Coordination Team (2012-2015). Energy4Health Demand Side Road Map, Project Partner (2013-2015). INNOCAT, PPI Facilitator PPI4WASTE, PPI Training Advisor

Other relevant experience

European Policy and Programme Manager, World Wide Fund for Nature (1990-1996).

UK Research Councils European Liaison Officer (1987-1990).

Committee Secretary, Science and Education Research Council (1985-1987).

Selection of relevant publications

Forward Commitment Procurement: a practical methodology that helps to manage risk in procuring innovative goods and services, Innovation: Gaynor Whyles, Hendrik van Meerveld & Joram Nauta The European Journal of Social Science Research (2015).

Good Practice Innovation Procurement Report on Pilot Innovation Procurement Projects in Barcelona, Birmingham and Rotterdam (2015).

In Edquist, C., Vonortas, N.S., Zabala-Iturriagagoitia, J.M., Edler, J. (Eds) Public Procurement for Innovation; Forward Commitment Procurement and its effect on perceived risks in PPI projects(Link) H. van Meerveld, N.J. Nauta, and G. Whyles Edward Elgar (2014).

Delivering Efficiency Quality and Sustainability in Healthcare – A Guide to Innovation Procurement for the Healthcare Sector, (2012).

The effects of the Forward Commitment Procurement method on perceived risks in projects concerning Public Procurement of Innovation in the healthcare sector. The Health and Care Infrastructure Research and Innovation Centre, by H. van Meerveld, N.J. Nauta, J.T. Voordijk and G. Whyles (2011).

Delivering low carbon solutions for the healthcare sector: case studies of a team based approach for the procurement of solutions, 4th European Conference on Healthcare Engineering, by J. Nauta and G. Whyles (June 2011).

Creating Conditions for Innovation - Towards a good practice guide (2011).

Delivering best value procurement through innovation, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (2010).

Education

BSc (Hons) Biology and Philosophy - Imperial College, Royal College of Science, University of London.

Examples of international presentations

EU Innovation Procurement event, Athens, October 2016

EPP-eHealth Stakeholder Conference, Brussels, May 2016

PPI Training Event, ICLEI, Barcelona, May 2015

Cambridge University Leadership for Sustainability Programme, September 2015

EU Innovation Procurement event, Milan, November 2014

EcoProcura, Ghent, September 2014

EU Innovation Procurement event, Thessaloniki, April 2014

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