



E-mail: s.bloomfield@unison.co.uk

Steve Bloomfield

***Business, Community
& Environment***

1 Mabledon Place
London WC1H 9AJ
Telephone: 020 75511352
Fax: 020 7551 1252
Text Tel: 0800 096 7968
www.unison.org.uk

**To: Secretaries of Business Community & Environment Branches
(Environment Agency Branches)**

cc: Regional and Senior Officers dealing with
Environment Agency Branches

28TH May 2010

Dear Colleague,

<p style="text-align: center;">PROPOSED PROCUREMENT DELIVERY PROTOCOL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY</p>

This circular informs branches that following consultation a proposed Procurement Delivery Protocol has been submitted to the Agency for consideration by the National Negotiating Group.

The main reasons behind the decision to proceed with this proposal lies in the extent to which the Agency is increasingly dependent upon external service providers to deliver its aims and objectives. Moreover this position is likely to expand rather than contract in the foreseeable future.

A major concern of the trade unions and their members is the risk posed that external providers have the potential to 'dumb down' the standards of operation that have been painstakingly developed internally for all employees of the Agency. These standards embrace Health and Safety, Environmental and Competency levels.

The proposed protocol seeks to establish a role for trade union representatives, and particularly H+S representatives, to work together with managers to monitor and where necessary to enforce the relevant contractual standards laid down between the Agency and the contractor/consultant.

The protocol will be submitted to the Agency for consideration and branches will be kept advised about any developments.

Yours sincerely

Steve Bloomfield

Steve Bloomfield
Head of Utilities
UNISON