

Lincolnshire County Council Supplier Guide



No Purchase Order No Payment Overview

The purpose of this guide is to explain Lincolnshire County Council's invoice process and associated requirements. It describes what actions you need to take as a supplier to ensure the processing and payment of your invoices is as efficient as possible.

Suppliers to Lincolnshire County Council are required to include a valid purchase order number on all of their invoices. A purchase order provides a unique reference number which is sent to the supplier confirming the request for goods or services. The aim of this policy is to ensure all procurement is compliant with relevant internal policies and the Council's financial governance framework.

This guide covers:

- No Purchase Order No Payment Policy
- Invoice requirements for all Purchase Orders
- What happens if I don't have a Purchase Order number?
- Will I get paid any quicker if I provide a valid Purchase Order number?
- Processing and Payment of Invoices
- The Contact Details Lincolnshire County Council have for me are incorrect
- Useful Information

No Purchase Order No Payment

A Council Officer or School Employee raises a request for goods or services. A purchase order is produced at the time of approval of the request and a unique reference number is provided.

The purchase order is then sent to the supplier and acts as the authority to supply/proceed. The supplier provides the goods/services as detailed in the purchase order.

All supplier invoices must quote a valid purchase order number.

The invoice must be addressed to Lincolnshire County Council and include the department or School when the goods/services were provided. Invoices sent to a local LCC site office or school cannot be processed.

Once the goods/services have been received, the Council Officer or School Employee responsible should confirm this by completing a 'goods receipt' on the Financial System.

When the invoice is registered, it should match against the corresponding purchase order number and the goods receipt.

The invoice will then be processed and payment released according to the suppliers pre agreed payment terms.



Sample Purchase Order

D

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

Sample Invoice

A

Vat Reg Number: GB123456789 

B

Invoice Number: 12341234
Invoice Date: 22/03/2019
Purchase Order Number:
20111234567

D

E

F

What happens if I haven't got a valid Purchase Order Number?

Please do not accept orders for goods or services unless you are provided with a valid purchase order number. When you submit your invoice for goods or services and it does not include a valid purchase order number, it will be rejected back to you unpaid. You will need to amend your invoice accordingly and resubmit it.

All staff of Lincolnshire County Council are aware of the No Purchase Order No Payment policy and have received the appropriate training and guidance. They have been advised they are not to make a request for goods or services without quoting a valid purchase order.

If you receive a request for goods or services without a valid purchase order number then contact the Council Officer or School Employee who made the request and ask them to provide you with a valid purchase order number.

Will I get paid any quicker if I provide a valid Purchase Order number?

This No Purchase Order No Payment policy will not affect the pre agreed payment terms you have with Lincolnshire County Council. However, failure to include a valid purchase order number on your invoice will result in the invoice being rejected back to you unpaid.

Along with your invoice, you will receive a letter advising you of what action to take to receive payment. For example, amend your invoice to state a clear, visible and valid purchase order number.

Should you experience any difficulties obtaining a purchase order number from the Council Officer or School Employee who made the original request for goods or services please contact suppliers@lincolnshire.gov.uk



Processing and Payment of Invoices

How do I submit my invoices to Lincolnshire County Council?

The steps below should be followed when submitting your invoices:

1

A valid Lincolnshire County Council purchase order number must be clearly displayed on all invoices and will be provided to you when a request is made for goods or services.

Each separate invoice must relate to only one purchase order number, you cannot include multiple purchase order numbers on a single invoice.

Your invoice must include:

- Your name, address and contact details
- The invoice must be addressed to Lincolnshire County Council and state the department or school that placed the order.
- A valid purchase order number for each invoice
- A unique reference number for each invoice
- Details of the goods/services provided, including quantities, price and breakdown of VAT where applicable.

2

Each separate invoice must be addressed to Lincolnshire County Council and state the department or school.

3

Invoices can be emailed to invoices@lincolnshire.gov.uk and they need to be in PDF. The file must not have security applied. Please ensure that each invoice is sent as a separate attachment and that each attachment to your e-mail is uniquely named.

Invoices can be also be posted to:
Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln, LN1 1YL

4

Any invoices submitted to a local LCC site or school will be returned to the supplier without being processed. A letter will be included with the invoice advising what action needs to be taken.

5

Please note; documents other than invoices should not be sent to the invoices email address as they cannot be processed. This is an automated email address and queries will not be responded to.

6

When submitting your invoice by email it must be electronically typed and in PDF format as all invoices are scanned and processed using Optical Character Recognition. Handwritten invoices are not suitable for this process and will be rejected if emailed. Please post all handwritten invoices and those in other formats.

The contact details Lincolnshire County Council have for me are incorrect

We always endeavour to maintain data as accurately as possible, if you need to advise us of any changes to your details please contact

suppliers@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Due to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018, any amendments must have formal authorisation before a record can be updated. Therefore we ask all changes to be confirmed in writing, an email is accepted, to maintain compliance and meet with audit requirements.

If you are currently paid by cheque but have a valid bank account, or believe the bank account details we hold for you are no longer current, we would encourage you to provide your correct account details in writing. This will enable us to improve the efficiency of your payment.

What will happen if I do not follow the No Purchase Order No Payment process?

Failure to follow this guidance is likely to result in your invoice being returned and the payment being delayed.

What should I do with credit notes and statements?

Credit notes should be sent to: invoices@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Statements should be sent to: statements@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Alternatively they can be posted to: Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln, LN1 1YL

What do I need to do as a Supplier?

- Ensure you obtain a purchase order number when accepting requests for goods or services.
- Quote the purchase order number on the associated invoice
- Ensure your invoices are in the format detailed in this guidance
- Submit your invoices to the email address or postal address contained within the processing and payment of invoices section on page 5.

Where can I find further information?

If you have any queries please email suppliers@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Additional information is available at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk

