



FAQ: VendorPanel

1. What is VendorPanel?

VendorPanel is a multi-award winning SaaS procurement platform. VendorPanel helps private and public organisations simplify procurement processes, reduce risk, and maximise value. It transforms sourcing in complex organisations. It is a collaborative procurement platform that seamlessly integrates access to the wide range of sourcing options available to a buyer, and makes them available in one place using simple standardised sourcing tools and powerful analytics.

2. Why have we implemented VendorPanel?

VendorPanel has a stack of functionality that simplifies procurement. This includes:

- a) Preferred Supplier List Management – simplifies the management of Preferred Supplier Lists to increase spend under contract and drive competition and transparency.
- b) Supplier Insurance and Accreditation Integration – VendorPanel integrates with global pre-qualification platform Avetta making it easy for buyers to review Supplier status before including them in bids or awarding work.
- c) Sourcing – simplifies the way Staff source from Supplier lists and the Marketplace, and get total control of your sourcing.
- d) Social Procurement – integrates Social Procurement/ Local and Regional Economic Development into our supply chain to make a positive impact, drive economic development and support objectives.
- e) Public Tenders – streamlines management of your public tenders, with simple integrated evaluation tools, powerful reporting and one-click reporting.
- f) Contract Management Integration – where Buyers can pass details of successful suppliers and responses to a CM application, including VendorPanel Contracts, to create a draft contract.
- g) Integrated Reporting and Analytics – drives strategic value with data driven insights and total visibility of sourcing via informative and easy to read dashboards.

3. What are the benefits?

VendorPanel makes it easy for non-procurement staff to purchase goods services. It is simple to use as both a buyer and supplier, and supports council's procurement processes.

It standardises the sourcing process and simplifies the end-to-end quotation process for council using a streamlined, structured, consistent and transparent process.

It will reduce risk by giving unprecedented transparency and it keeps track of quotes rather than information being lost in emails or other systems.

It is an end-to-end quotation–selection–feedback process.

It provides easier governance and audit reporting, with a powerful reporting and analytics tool which means it is really easy to see what has occurred and demonstrate process in any audits or reviews.

It integrates supplier compliance, making it easy to monitor supplier's status, saving time because it's the supplier that uploads and responds when renewals are required.

It allows local businesses to be clearly seen by local councils, providing more opportunity to actively participate in both local and regional markets.

4. How is VendorPanel different to other platforms?

VendorPanel is a full sourcing suite and is particularly useful for organisations with decentralised purchasing. Why? Because ...

- a) VendorPanel has the ability to transform sourcing. It is transparent with its data, control and outcomes giving procurement professionals an entirely new toolset for positively transforming sourcing across the organisation.
- b) Such transparency means procurement becomes a strategic advisor's to the organisation. Its insight and leverage is powerful, and it's helping to drive real value across the sourcing lifecycle.
- c) Ease-of-use drives adoption. It's simple and its intuitive user interface has been successful in driving engagement and changing User behaviour.
- d) It manages risk and value, and also drives impact. VendorPanel's unique technical capability is designed to enable economic development, supplier diversity and positive social impact.

5. How will it help both council and my business specifically?

It is estimated that VendorPanel could save up to 9.74% on tendered work for local councils, meaning councils can deliver more for the rate payer's dollar.

It also saves time for businesses and council staff in the time taken to manage and complete requests for quote. Some council organisations have reported an average of 2.5 hours saved for each request for quote task completed.

It will reduce risk by creating a transparent process aligned to our purchasing objectives.

It will help Walcha Council and Namoi Unlimited to unlock data, support aggregated purchasing and procurement decisions, reporting and other insights.

It will help local businesses by making the process of receiving requests for quote, and submitting quotes for council projects consistent, simple and easy.

6. Which Councils are involved in Namoi Unlimited?

The Namoi Unlimited Joint Organisation (JO) of Councils includes Walcha Council, Tamworth Regional Council, Gunnedah Shire Council, Liverpool Plains Shire Council and Gwydir Shire Council.

You can find out more about Namoi Unlimited here:

<https://www.namoiunlimited.nsw.gov.au/>

7. Why is Namoi Unlimited involved?

Namoi Unlimited secured funding to purchase the extension of VendorPanel for Councils for one year through a Capacity and Capability Building initiative through the NSW Office of Local Government.

Each of the five Councils in Namoi Unlimited now have an individual but common platform for:

- a) Integrated Reporting and Analytics to support future initiatives for aggregated purchasing and procurement;
- b) Assist Councils with the reporting of use of local and regional suppliers; and
- c) Facilitate access for local and regional businesses to do 'business' with Councils.

8. Where can I go for more information?

For more information about Vendorpanel you can watch these two YouTube videos:

<https://vimeo.com/338133105>

<https://vimeo.com/352181314>

Visit Walcha Council's dedicated VendorPanel webpage at:

<https://www.walcha.nsw.gov.au/council/procurement/vendor-panel.aspx>

You can also access more information on Walcha Council's website, email at council@walcha.nsw.gov.au or call us on 02 6774 2500.

