



First Data™

**BARNET**  
LONDON BOROUGH

# London Borough of Barnet

## London Borough of Barnet Adopts First Data's d.cal Purchasing Card Manager Solution

London Borough of Barnet Council is a major organisation, employing around 7,000 staff. Their annual gross revenue budget in 2007/8 was around £790 million, plus an annual capital budget of over £100 million. Management and efficiency in their purchasing processes are essential to good business practice and value for money.

It was this mission that led the Council to evaluate card issuers and back-office solutions as a joint offering from day one. They realised that without changing their business processes, a purchase card alone would not bring about the benefits they wanted to achieve. In 2003, London Borough of Barnet decided to adopt The Co-Operative Bank as its card issuer and First Data's d.cal Purchasing Card Manager (PCM) as its card management solution.

Cards were implemented in conjunction with a comprehensive survey of Council services in order to rationalise and streamline purchasing processes. At each stage of this review, cards were recommended where appropriate. As a result, London Borough of Barnet now has 420 issued cards and spends in the region of £12 million per annum. They have estimated an additional £6 savings per transaction by using d.cal PCM, compared to the cost of managing the cards and transaction information manually.

The d.cal PCM has enabled the Council to meet e-procurement deadlines and continues to keep the card programme in line with other government requirements around efficiency savings in the delivery

of public services as outlined by the Audit Commission and Gershon Review. Purchasing cards are now a significant payment tool within the Council and will continue to contribute to the procurement savings for the foreseeable future.

### Objectives

- Eliminate manual effort associated with paper orders and invoices
- Ensure government mandates are met
- Ensure chosen system is user friendly

### Why d.cal

- Online and easy to use
- Defaults available for integration with SAP
- Flexible design to meet Council's specific requirements

### Results

- Average savings of £6 per transaction compared to manual card management
- Removal of 50,000 pieces of paper annually from stationery supplier and 25,000 from agency staff recruitment supplier
- Greater control and visibility of spending patterns
- Web-based to accommodate the Council's flexible working arrangements
- Helps meet government mandates for procurement efficiency

"First Data's d.cal solution is by far the most comprehensive Web-based solution available for purchase card management. First Data has been outstanding in its understanding of our needs."  
Sylvia Clark, Improvement & Control Manager, London Borough of Barnet

### A Global Leader in Electronic Commerce

First Data powers the global economy by making it easy, fast and secure for people and businesses around the world to buy goods and services using virtually any form of payment. Serving millions of merchant locations and thousands of card issuers, we have the expertise and insight to help you accelerate your business. Put our intelligence to work for you. In October 2007, Deecal International became a part of First Data, bringing the d.cal system into the First Data suite of products.

For more information, contact your First Data Sales Representative or visit [firstdata.com](http://firstdata.com).