

# Community credit union saves £5,300 a year via buying group

Pennine Community Credit Union (PCCU) is an ethical, not for profit financial co-operative serving Burnley and Pendle in Lancashire. Its 5,400 adult members have collective savings of over £3.2million and since it started in 1982 it has lent more than £21million to local people. PCCU's assets amount to more than £3million.

PCCU was one of the first credit unions to sign up as a member of CMS Purchasing, the buying group of Cornerstone Mutual Services.



*Serving the Communities of Burnley & Pendle*

The buying group's team went into PCCU to conduct a savings analysis, which involved looking at their overheads spend by going through their invoices.

Their CMS Purchasing account manager then talked through with them the savings they could make if they used the special deals the buying group has already agreed with suppliers in various categories.

The initial savings analysis found that PCCU could save more than £5,300 a year on their overheads by switching several suppliers. That works out as more than five times the fee they paid to join the buying group.



There were savings of at least 10% in ten out of 13 categories, including 21% on photocopier servicing, 33% on stationery, 55% on printed stationery and 62% on fixed-line call charges.

The credit union could save £2,543 a year on business stationery – its largest single saving – if it switched to CMS Purchasing's nominated supplier. This is a third of PCCU's annual spend in that category.

Once contracts for gas and electricity supply come to an end, they could cut even more from their overheads bill. The decision to change suppliers remains in PCCU's hands, as CMS Purchasing's role is to help maximize savings.

Manager Kathryn Fogg said: "Not only has the buying group saved PCCU money, it has saved my time in looking into new suppliers. The savings are fantastic and the whole process has been an easy and workable experience."

## Get in touch

You can find out more information on how it all works by visiting the website [www.cmsdeals.co.uk](http://www.cmsdeals.co.uk), emailing [info@cmsdeals.co.uk](mailto:info@cmsdeals.co.uk) or calling us on 0870 7552579, quoting CMS Purchasing.