### Enhancing Procurement Category Management for Effective Cost-Saving Initiatives

Unlocking Value Through Strategic Category Optimisation Nicole Simon | 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025 | Domain Group

# Category Management... A unique perspective?

#### What do we already know?



DEFINITION OF CATEGORY MANAGEMENT



STRATEGIC VS TACTICAL PROCUREMENT



LINK TO BUSINESS VALUE AND SUSTAINABLE COST SAVINGS

#### What's evolving?



WORLD ECONOMIC
CLIMATE AND PRESSURES



TECHNOLOGY AND AI



EXPECTATIONS ON SPEED TO MARKET

#### The Cost-Saving Opportunity



- Current challenges in procurement cost control
- Gaps in traditional category management
- Risk mitigation, and reduction in urgent, stopgap purchasing

The gist?

People

Process

Platforms

#### Right team, in the right roles

Training

Updated market info

Co-create business value with stakeholders

People

#### Processes

Centralised or uniform approach

Use Levers beyond price

Building internal cost models

Treat Category Strategies as living documents

Opportunity cost of inaction

Link Category Strategies to Social Procurement goals

Standardised reporting – TCO, hard savings, cost avoidance

Predictive analytics

**Platforms** 

Tail spend analytics

GenAl templates

## Integrating Feedback Loops with Business Units

- Continuous engagement with stakeholders
- Feedback mechanisms to validate priorities and refine strategies
- Tools for collaboration (e.g., surveys, governance councils)
- Governance structures embedded

