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"Austerity measures have meant continued strong pressure on public sector bodies to cut spending. While this has led to some outsourcing in the contract catering sector, it has also led to intense price competition and even reductions in some existing contracts. The private sector, meanwhile, has benefitted from ongoing economic development, which has seen the gradual return of confidence and security."

Marco Amasanti, Research Analyst

# This report looks at the following areas:

- The continued need to demonstrate value for money
- Need to tap into younger demographic
- The potential role of technology

#### Definition

For the purposes of this report, contract catering is defined as the part of the foodservice industry that supplies meals to third-party organisations. This encompasses a wide variety of businesses and institutions.

This report concentrates on the following main sections of contract catering:

- Business and Industry: company staff catering, including government and agency locations.
- Local Authorities: local government.
- Education: including both state education, such as schools, colleges and universities, and independent schools.
- Healthcare: including NHS and trust hospitals, private hospitals, and private nursing homes.
- Defence: MOD and armed services.
- Remote sites: including oil rigs, training centres, and construction sites.
- Retail catering: including catering for the public in high-street retail outlets.

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