

Public Sector Procurement Opportunities in Electronics and IT Services Find Out More

General Information on Public Sector Procurement

Many public sector organisations take the opportunity to advertise their tenders on their own websites but According to EU legislation, all contracts from the public sector, which are valued above a certain threshold, must be published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU, formerly the OJEC).

The legislation covers organisations and projects that receive public money. Local authorities, NHS trusts, Central Government Departments, Port Authorities are all covered by the legislation and must advertise in OJEU if their contract is covered.

Some privately funded / managed contracts will also be covered - if a project is in receipt of more than 50% public funds, it would also be covered by the EU legislation (e.g. the Lowry Centre in Manchester and the Millennium Dome).

The term 'Journal' is misleading, as production of the hard copy version ceased in 1997. It can now be accessed on CD ROM or via intermediaries such as Tenders Direct.

Around 2500 new notices are advertised every week - invitations to tender, pre information notices, qualification systems and contract award notices from over 80 countries world - wide. Around 10% - 15% of these are from the UK and Northern Ireland.

Details of the thresholds, applying from 31 January 2006 are given in the following link
<http://www.tendersdirect.co.uk/library/thresholds.asp>

Where more information can be found about public sector Procurement Opportunities

There are a number of websites where information can be obtained about the currently available opportunities; some of them are described below with hyperlinks:

www.ojec.com

This website provides a gateway to specialised resources for purchasers who wish to publish tender notices in the S series of the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) (formerly known as the OJEC) and suppliers who wish to search for business opportunities. Information for suppliers is found on the tenders direct website.

www.tendersdirect.com

Tenders Direct is a tender tracking system that automatically sends relevant contract opportunities directly by email. This site uses a category system where people can find examples of the types of tenders available.

<http://ted.europa.eu/Exec?DataFlow=hRead.dfl&Template=TED/homepage.htm&hpt=ALL&StatLang=EN>

TED is a database of European tenders that forms part of the European Commission's 'Official Journal of the European Union' (OJEU). Tenders are published by Central Government, Local Councils, MOD, NHS, Educational Bodies, Police, Utility Organisations etc. TED also displays lower value contracts not published in the European Journal.

www.govopps.co.uk

This website is a public procurement portal giving links to a number of the websites mentioned in this document it is also the home of Contrax Weekly a subscription magazine that gives details of hundreds of new contract opportunities in the UK. Contrax Weekly is the only comprehensive paper source of UK and Northern Ireland contract notices. The magazine is available by subscription on this website.

<http://www.bipcontracts.com/index.html>

BiP Solutions is a leading provider of public sector contract information, offering suppliers and buyers access to a very large database of current open contract opportunities. Over 300 UK government organisations use BiP Solutions's internet solutions to create and manage their contract information. BiP Solutions is a member of the EU's taskforce for standardising the way in which tender information is created, submitted and disseminated.

<https://www.supply2.gov.uk/cgi-bin/index.cgi>

Supply2.gov.uk is a dynamic new government-backed service designed specifically to give companies' easy access to lower-value contract opportunities (typically worth under £100,000) offered by the public sector. This portal brings buyers and suppliers together and is the first port of call for lower-value business opportunities.

<http://ectenders.com/>

EC Tenders is a service licensed by the European Union to promote contract opportunities issued by public authorities from throughout the 25 Member States of the EU to suppliers. This amounts to approximately 650 new opportunities published in EC Tenders every working day.

<https://www.tendermatch.co.uk/cgi-bin/index.cgi>

Tracker is a public sector contract information alert service that delivers contract opportunities relevant to individual businesses by e-mail, giving the capability to search for new business opportunities online. This is made possible through completing an online profile which, through keywords and product codes, identifies precisely those contracts relevant to the supplier. Tracker then delivers this potential new business information every working day.

The table at Annex A below identifies a selection of public sector organisations that advertise their procurement opportunities on their website. Included in the table is some detail of what is available in the procurement section of their site and a hyperlink to that section.

Public Sector Procurement Websites

	Public Sector Organisation	Website Address (incl. Link to procurement if available)	Level of Detail on Procurement	Contact for Further Information
1	B2B Quote Ltd	www.b2bquote.co.uk	B2B Quote offers an e-mail alert tender tracking system that automatically notifies you when a tender is submitted within your chosen product category and registration is free. They cover both high value OJEU tenders and lower value public sector tenders.	
2	British Educational Communications & Technology Agency	http://industry.becta.org.uk/display.cfm?page=1623	There is a lot of detail on this site about procurement under the "procurement schemes" section in "industry and developers". This includes information on procurement schemes library, supplier selection, current procurements, existing schemes and branding guidelines.	
3	CITB - Construction Skills	www.citb.co.uk/aboutus/purchasing/advertisedtenders.asp	There is a list of advertised tenders on this site under the "about us" and "purchasing" sections. There are also details of their purchasing policies here.	
4	Coal Authority	www.coal.gov.uk/news/contractnotices/index.cfm	Details of contracts that are available or have been rewarded are given in "contract notices" under the "News" section of the site.	
5	Companies House	www.companieshouse.gov.uk/about/supplyingCh.shtml	This site gives details about companies house procurement procedures but does not appear to advertise opportunities. There is an option for suppliers to apply for pre qualification.	Steve Davies srdavies@companieshouse.gov.uk 029 20380575
6	Crown Prosecution Service	http://www.cps.gov.uk/procurement/index.html	The procurement section of this site is quite comprehensive and includes details of the processes they follow, current opportunities and the e-tendering portal which gives easy access to lists of CPS' current & future tender opportunities both above and below EC thresholds; view Prior Information and Contract Award Notices.	Procurement and Commercial Services procurement@cps.gsi.gov.uk 020 7796 8404
7	Department for Constitutional Affairs	www.dca.gov.uk/procurement/index.htm	The procurement pages on this site have been designed to provide an overview as to how procurement is conducted within DCA. There is information regarding current and future contract opportunities as well as the procedures and systems followed when tendering for new contracts.	Procurement Division mailto:procurement@dca.gsi.gov.uk 0207 340 6888

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8	Department for Culture Media and Sport	http://www.culture.gov.uk/working_with_us/procurement/	DCMS has an extensive procurement section on this site including a breakdown of their direct spend per annum it states that DCMS spend £38m of which approx £5.5m is spent on IT. It also includes details of procurement policy and contract advertisements.	
9	Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs	www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/finance/procurement/index.htm	This section of the site gives guidance on Defras buying policies and the criteria they use for awarding contracts. There is no information about current tenders although it does give a number of useful links to other sites dealing with government procurement.	General contact address: mailto:spg.contracts@defra.gov.uk Click on the contact link on the website to access a list of contact names dealing with procurement in DEFRA
10	Department for International Development	www.dfid.gov.uk/procurement/	There is a very detailed procurement section of the DFID website giving information on current opportunities, shortlisted suppliers, frameworks, details of contracts let in the last 3 years complaints procedures and more.	Procurement Group general enquiries mailto:cbinternet@dfid.gov.uk 01355 84 3770 or 01355 84 3603
11	Department for Transport	For policy information: http://www.dft.gov.uk/about/procurement/dft/ For specific tender information: http://dft.g2b.info/	There are two parts to the procurement information available from DfT. The first contains all the information you need to find out about the procurement process at DfT including regularly updated prompt payment statistics and the second is a procurement portal informing suppliers about what they need to do to become a supplier. It includes information about purchasing arrangements and has details of past and present contracts.	
12	Department for Work & Pensions	www.dwp.gov.uk/supplyingdwp/index.asp	This site provides a single point of access to guide around commercial functions within the Department. There are no specific details about contracts but there is significant information about contacts for suppliers in particular areas. There is a section about providing Information services and technology.	John Roberts John.Roberts8@dwp.gsi.gov.uk 0114 259 7909
13	Department of Health	http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/procurementAndProposals/index.htm	There are two main sections for procurement on this website the procurement section gives details of how DH goes about purchasing general goods and services. The site states that the Department also has specialist buyers, whose practices may vary, who deal with printing, media-related products and services, information technology, and research & development. The tenders section gives details of current and past tendering exercises.	

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14	Department for Business Enterprise & Regulatory Reform	www.berr.gov.uk/about/procurement/suppliers-guides/page13767.html	The BERR website provides a suppliers guide to procurement that gives insight into how the Department goes about buying its goods and services. There are no details about past or present contracts.	Andrew Timms andrew.timms@berr.gsi.gov.uk 020 7215 6039
15	Driver & Vehicle Licensing Agency	http://www.dvla.gov.uk/contracttenders.aspx	There is a lot of procurement information on this site including past and present contract opportunities, how to become a supplier and useful contacts.	
16	East Midlands Development Agency	www.emda.org.uk/itt/default.asp?nav=04	This web page covers invitations to tender for opportunities at emda. You will not be able to view the tenders and download documents unless you register yourself on the site, but registration is Free. There is a section listing contracts awarded and also a procurement profile area.	Procurement Team mailto:procurement@emd.org.uk
17	East of England Development Agency	http://www.eeda.org.uk/24_contracts.asp	All upcoming contracts for EEDA are advertised on this site there are also details of how to apply and results of recent tenders where available.	
18	Environment Agency	http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/aboutus/233207/317943/?lang=_e	There is a large amount of detailed information on this site including contacts in centres of expertise and lists for current and upcoming national contracts. There is also information on their procurement role and strategy, a breakdown of key areas of expenditure for 2006/07, details on sustainable procurement, past procurement presentations, terms and conditions and environmental and ethical factors.	
19	Food Standards Agency	www.food.gov.uk/aboutus/how_we_work/procurement/	There are details about current and previous tenders and other details about the food standards agency procurement policies.	Frank Wright frank.wright@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk 0207 276 8011
20	Foreign & Commonwealth Office	www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&c=Page&cid=1106073449817	This site offers details of the FCO procurement policy including details of how to manage the tender process and details of current available contracts. Also included is a breakdown of spend in 2004/05 including £9m on IT projects and £6m on office machinery.	Corporate Procurement Group mailto:cpg.enquiries@fco.gov.uk 0207 008 0924
21	Forestry Commission	www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-6JKFYT	There is limited information on this site but there are a list of current available tenders.	

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22	Health & Safety Executive	www.hse.gov.uk/sellingtohse/index.htm	There is a very detailed section on procurement that gives information on policy, current opportunities and awarded contracts	
23	Highways Agency	www.highways.gov.uk/business/236.aspx	There is limited information on this site about how procurement works within Highways Agency but there is a list of the current procurement opportunities.	
24	HM Prison Service	http://procurement.hmprisonservice.gov.uk/	HMPS have a separate procurement website that gives details of their policies and details such as FAQs and useful contacts. There is no information on current opportunities although it does state that these are all available on the OGC website.	
25	HM Revenue and Customs	www.hmrc.gov.uk/about/supplying.htm	This site contains a suppliers guide for selling to HM revenue and customs including terms and conditions and FAQs. There is also a comprehensive list of the call of contracts and agreements that they have in place but doesn't appear to be any details of current opportunities.	
26	Home Office	http://commercial.homeoffice.gov.uk/doing-business/procurement-policy/	There is a separate site for the commercial side of the Home Office this includes details on procurement policy, a suppliers guide to doing business with the HO and links to registering on the eSourcing system and the OJEU website.	
27	London Development Agency	www.lda.gov.uk/server/show/nav.001003004	The information on this site includes a copy of the LDA procurement code, contact details and a list of current tenders.	
28	Ministry of Defence	http://www.mod.uk/defenceinternet/microsite/DES/	There is a separate site for Defence Equipment and Support, which was formed by the merger of the Defence Procurement Agency and the Defence Logistics organisation. This site gives details about the DE&S but there is no information about procurement policies or current opportunities.	
29	NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency	http://www.pasa.nhs.uk/PASAWeb/	This website gives a lot of information on the policies and the way in which the NHS goes about purchasing. There is the opportunity to become part of the NHS Supplier Information Database and a link to the OJEU and Tenders Electronics Daily websites including a detailed description of access to European tenders.	
30	Northern Ireland Office	www.nio.gov.uk/index/procurement.htm?keywords=procurement	There isn't much information on this site although there is a list of the current procurement opportunities.	

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31	North West Development Agency	http://www.nwda.co.uk/working-with-us/supplying-nwda.aspx	Information on NWDA Procurement Policy is available to download there are also details of current tenders, a list of award notices to date and the Terms and Conditions.	
32	Office of Government Commerce	http://www.ogc.gov.uk/procurement.asp	This site gives a lot of information about procurement in the public sector as a whole but doesn't go in to any detail about how they procure their own goods and services.	
33	OFCOM	www.ofcom.org.uk/about/jobs/contracts_tenders/	There doesn't appear to be any information about the procurement policies at OFCOM but there is a list of current contracts and tenders.	
34	OGCbuying.solutions	www.ogcbuyingsolutions.gov.uk	Provide customers with access to more than 500,000 products and services under the <u>Catalist</u> brand & fully <u>managed</u> telecoms services, energy and secure e-mail, Intranet, data transfer & publishing services.	
35	One NorthEast	www.onenortheast.co.uk/page/e-tendering/index.cfm	There is a comprehensive section on this site for e-tendering. This gives a list of all current tender opportunities each one giving a link to full portfolio of relevant tender documents. There is also the opportunity to register for regular tailored e-mails regarding opportunities available in individual areas of expertise.	
36	Police IT Organisation	http://www.npia.police.uk/en/7067.htm	This site gives detailed information on the current tender opportunities, a list of related links and a FAQ section.	
37	Department for Transport - was Strategic Rail Authority	For policy information: http://www.dft.gov.uk/about/procurement/dft/ For specific tender information: http://dft.g2b.info/	There are two parts to the procurement information available from DfT. The first contains all the information you need to find out about the procurement process at DfT including regularly updated prompt payment statistics and the second is a procurement portal informing suppliers about what they need to do to become a supplier. It includes information about our purchasing arrangements and has details of past and present contracts.	
38	Vehicle and Operator Services Agency	http://www.vosa.gov.uk/vosacorp/contractopportunities/contractopportunities.htm	This site gives details of the procurement regulations and policy for VOSA but doesn't give any details of current or past contracts.	
39	Yorkshire Forward	www.yorkshire-forward.com/www/view.asp?content_id=31&parent_id=1	This site gives a brief definition of the current opportunities available at Yorkshire Forward and a link to the SIMAP site where a full list of available contracts can be found.	

