



# National Collaborative Procurement Division – quarterly bulletin

## Welcome to NCPD's quarterly bulletin - July 2025

I'm delighted to report that last financial year the Scottish public sector spent £1.7 billion through national collaborative frameworks, which delivered savings of over £167 million. This is a superb outcome!

Our ambition to continue to grow these figures, routing even more spend through the national collaborative team and further increasing the savings for the whole public sector, supports the [Public Service Reform Strategy](#) which is now published.

SG national collaborative procurement (Category A) and Scotland Innovates activities are key examples of "Once for Scotland" approaches that are the bedrock of PSR activity.

The Collaborative Construction Team (CCT) continues to actively support ongoing work to establish a new delivery model for construction in Scotland and in recent weeks we have widened engagement to include an update to the Collaborative Leads Group and also a meeting with Scotland Excel. The CCT is actively promoting both the Civil Engineering Framework and the Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) and we are awaiting the outcome of the first mini competition run under the DPS.

Our small Innovation team continues to punch above its weight, with the imminent publication of a paper to encourage the public sector to embrace Circular Economy Lighting. There are also lots of high-potential projects in the Health sector which can make a tangible difference to patient experiences and outcomes if adopted.

We also continue to make good progress with our Service Enhancement Programme. We have accessed and analysed rich data about the way in which our customers use our frameworks. This is helping to build a clear picture of opportunities and areas for development.

The active promotion of social value through all of our frameworks is an important part of our work – a tangible example of this has been Business Stream's activity in supporting 8 young people through the Career Ready Programme. They have also offered a whole range of other community, economic and environmental benefits under the terms of the Water and Waste Water Billing Framework. This work was recognised through the recent nomination in the Social Value category of the National GO Awards.

I'm also pleased to announce that we've been awarded Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) accreditation for the 7th year in a row – this demonstrates the commitment of our ICT team to delivering sustainable outcomes through our technology frameworks, reducing environmental and social impacts across the device lifecycle.

Finally, on a very positive note, we've successfully recruited to two of our portfolio team lead roles and we look forward to welcoming Laura Robertson and Lynsey Miller into the ICT and Corporate and Professional Services teams respectively. Our achievements as a whole team are significant, particularly given resource pressures and I'm really grateful to all our staff for pulling together to cover gaps and to support colleagues and customers while we work through this period of recruitment and change.

Calum Elliot  
Deputy Director, National Collaborative Procurement Division

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## How to access SG national collaborative frameworks and services

Our full [framework contact list](#) is available on our website.



## SG national collaborative frameworks update

### Marketing Services – re-let

Market and stakeholder engagement has been undertaken and work is commencing to finalise the procurement strategy. We are seeking volunteers to be part of the Tender Evaluation Panel – if you are interested in participating please contact [Colin Anderson](#)

### Publishing Print Design and Associated services (PPDAS) – re-let update

The tender evaluation process will shortly be concluded and we are still on track to award a new framework commencing 1 October 2025. Please contact [Neil Mactavish](#) for more information.

## Travel Services – contract extension

The current travel services contract with CTM has been extended and can continue to be used by named organisations. The contract will now expire on 11 September 2026. During the 12 month extension work will commence to determine future requirements for travel services. For information on this contract please contact [Darren Russell](#)

## Postal Services Framework – Re-let – withdrawal from procurement process

Unfortunately, Scottish Procurement has taken the difficult decision not to award a new Framework for the provision of Postal Services under the current procurement exercise, as none of the bidding companies taking part in the procurement submitted a fully compliant bid. We are extremely disappointed that we have been unable to bring this procurement to a successful conclusion on this occasion and we acknowledge and apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. Communications have been issued to Framework users, members of the User Intelligence Group and those involved in the procurement process.

A formal cancellation notice has also been issued via PCS. Scottish Procurement is currently considering options on the future of a collaborative Postal Services Framework and we will provide an update in due course. However, attached is a link to the Crown Commercial Services (CCS) Framework for possible consideration by those organisations who may require to make alternative arrangements in the short to medium term to ensure service continuity. [Postal Services & Solutions - CCS](#)

## Mobile Client Devices – relet

The current [Mobile Client Devices Framework](#) with Hewlett Packard expires on 15 November 2025. The re-let of this Framework is underway with tenders currently being evaluated. Scottish Procurement aims to announce the award decision by September 2025. For further information, please contact [lisa.pittman@gov.scot](mailto:lisa.pittman@gov.scot)

## Civil Engineering Framework (Scotland) - live

We're pleased to share that the Framework is making progress on a pipeline of potential projects planned for 2025/26. Following successful early market engagements with our framework suppliers, we're now preparing for the next phase. Full procurement exercises are expected to begin this year, marking an exciting step forward in bringing these opportunities to market. We'll continue to keep you informed as these projects develop.

The Framework is for Civil Engineering Projects between £5 million to £100 million. Buyer's Guide and supporting guidance: [Civil Engineering Framework \(25 March 2024 to 24 March 2028\)](#).

Relevant documents can be found in the [Knowledge Hub](#). Questions can be directed to [Norman Matheson](#) or the [Collaborative Construction Team](#) (CCT).

# Policy Notices

All [Scottish Procurement Policy Notes](#) can be found on our website.

## NCPD Service Enhancement

Work is underway in three areas: a review of the NCPD framework portfolio to inform opportunities and areas for development, a refresh of our communications and engagement approaches and the design of our detailed service blueprint. We will hold our next Service Enhancement User Intelligence Group in mid-August to consider the emerging outputs of the portfolio review and how we can best work with customers to help them gain more from our frameworks and services.

Alongside this work, we are facilitating a review of the Collaborative Leads Group (CLG) Terms of Reference and Collaborative Procurement Ways of Working and more information is set out below.

Contact [Bridget Lambert](#), Head of Collaborative Procurement, or [Corinne Telford](#), NCPD Service Enhancement Programme Manager.

## Public Procurement Governance

### Public Procurement Group

You may be aware that we have recently completed a review of the Public Procurement Group (PPG). This review has resulted in a number of changes designed to ensure that the group is more closely aligned with the evolving Public Procurement Strategy for Scotland (PPSfS) and is better positioned to support and drive Public Service Reform.

#### Key Changes to PPG for reporting year 2025/2026:

- **Expanded Membership and Representation** – A Non-Executive Director will join the group, providing independent oversight, strategic challenge, and a broader perspective—while supporting alignment to overall objectives.
- **Stronger Local Representation** – To ensure regional insights are reflected, the group will now include representatives from two Local Authorities, the NHS, Central Government, and Universities and Colleges.
- **Enhanced Governance Structure** – The PPG will now report directly to the Minister for Public Finance, recognising the group’s key role in delivering Public Service Reform:
  - To strengthen alignment, regular updates will be shared with PPG members on progress and contributions from relevant procurement forums.
  - These updates will help inform policy development and ensure forum activity supports the wider objectives of the PPG and the PPSfS.

- **Clearer Focus and Annual Objectives** – The PPG will now set specific aims and priorities each year, ensuring more targeted and impactful collaboration.
- **Greater Transparency** – Minutes from PPG meetings will be published, allowing wider stakeholders to stay informed and increasing accountability. Cross-sector contributions will be tracked to ensure clear lines of sight across all activity that feeds into the PPG.

## Collaborative Leads Group

In line with the launch of the Public Service Reform Strategy and the requirement for a strengthened PPG, a review of collaborative procurement governance and ways of working was also the main item on the agenda of the Collaborative Leads Group (CLG), held in Glasgow on 4 June. The Group considered relevant feedback from the NCPD Service Enhancement User Intelligence Group and discussion focussed on the need for clearer strategic direction and goals, improved approaches to identification of collaborative opportunities and their implementation, clearer lines of sight for communication and decision-making across the landscape and with PPG, stronger accountability within the system and a clearer understanding of measures of success.

The CLG Terms of Reference and Ways of Working document will now be revised for further discussion at the next CLG meeting to be held on 13 August in Stirling.

## Other news



We are pleased to announce that a wide range of community benefits, sponsored by Computacenter, the supplier of the Software Value Added Reseller Services (SVARS) Framework, continues to support Scottish communities. Over the past few months these have included an initiative to support Homeless Project Scotland by providing a group of vulnerable people with a hot meal and accommodation for the night in Glasgow and an Ocean Day beach clean-up which took place in June.

SmartSTEMS events for young people have also been held at Abertay University (Dundee) and the University of the West of Scotland (UWS). The events were attended by hundreds of young people who took part in some exciting digital and STEM experiences.

We are now working in partnership with Computacenter to plan a showcase event for both the SVARS and Technology Products Infrastructure (TPI) (Lot 1) Frameworks, to be held in Glasgow in September 2025.

More information will be available soon and questions can be directed to [liz.burns@gov.scot](mailto:liz.burns@gov.scot)