



# National Collaborative Procurement Division - quarterly bulletin

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

The first quarter of 2025 is shaping up to be a time of significant change for the National Collaborative Procurement Division.

Sadly we're losing four long serving and valued members of the team. Ann Hoyland (Utilities), David Bilton (Corporate and Professional Services), James Gray (ICT) and Jan Tyczynska (Corporate and Professional Services) are all retiring between April and May. Between them they have over 90 years of service in Scottish Government and a few more years before that in the wider public sector. They have brought knowledge, insight, dedication and experience to our team and we will miss them very much. I know that I speak on behalf of our whole team and everyone who has interacted with them over the years when I wish Ann, David, James and Jan a long and very happy retirement.

On a positive note we were very pleased to publish our [Service Enhancement Plan](#) on 10 March, following extensive public sector consultation and final consideration by the Public Procurement Group (PPG). Over the course of the next two years we are aiming to improve the service we offer our customers. This will include an improved customer account management approach to help customers achieve even more savings and efficiencies through better use of the national collaborative framework agreements set up by NCPD.

This month Business Stream will announce details of its annual Water Efficiency Fund 2025, one of the many benefits of the Scottish Government [Water and Waste Water Framework](#). I'm also delighted to report that after their recent success at the Scottish GO Awards, our Utilities Team will be shortlisted in the 'Best Procurement Delivery Award' category at the National GO Awards in Liverpool on 21 May. It is rewarding for us to achieve this recognition of the value we provide for the public sector in Scotland and we will be rooting for the team.

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

### Civil Engineering Framework (Scotland) - live

The framework has progressed potential projects in the pipeline for 2025, completing successful early market engagement with framework suppliers. The planned next phase of these are for Spring 2025, when we hope to see full procurement exercises commence. We continue to engage with key stakeholders targeting potential civil engineering works, and focus on the construction pipeline information from the Scottish Futures Trust to manage capacity down the line.

The framework is for civil engineering projects between £5 million to £100 million. For more information, including 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).

### Gas and Electricity Frameworks – price set

The framework prices for the wholesale cost of Gas and Electricity have now been set for 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026. Information has been sent to all framework customers. Questions can be directed to [Aidan Cardases](#).

### Mobile Client Devices (Laptops and Mobile Workstations) – extension

This framework has been extended until 15 November 2025. An Invitation to Tender for a replacement framework will be issued in April 2025.

### Software Value Added Reseller Services framework - extension

The framework commenced service on 1 May 2023 for an initial two-year period with the option of two 12-month extension periods. Scottish Procurement has utilised the optional extension period and the framework will now expire on 30 April 2026. This single-supplier framework is available to all Scottish public bodies and Third Sector organisations on a direct award basis.

### Marketing Services – re-let update

The re-let for this framework has commenced development. The existing framework expires 31 August 2026. Please contact [Colin Anderson](#) for further information.

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

The re-let for this framework is well underway, with tenders due by 26 March 2025. We are currently on track to conclude the live procurement exercise and award a new framework commencing 1 October 2025. Please contact [Neil Mactavish](#) for more information.

## **Provision of Media Services – re-let update**

The re-let for this [framework](#) is well underway, with the commencement of the tender evaluation stage. The existing framework (SP-20-002) is a collaborative framework accessible by the whole of the Scottish Public Sector and due to expire on 31 August 2025. We are currently on track to conclude the live procurement exercise and award a new framework to commence on 1 September 2025.

## **Provision of Postal Services – re-let update**

The re-let process for this [framework](#) is well underway, with tenders due for return on 26 March 2025. The existing framework (Ref: SP-19-035) is a collaborative framework accessible by the whole of the Scottish Public Sector and due to expire on 30 June 2025. We are currently on track to conclude the live procurement exercise and award a new framework commencing 1 July 2025.

## **Provision of interpreting, translation and transcription services – re-let update**

The re-let process for this [framework](#) has just begun, and the first User Intelligence Group (UIG) meeting with existing user organisations held. The existing framework (Ref: SP-21-001) is a collaborative framework accessible by the whole of the Scottish Public Sector and is due to expire on 11 November 2025. Please contact Scottish Procurement - [Paul Brydon](#) or [Amy Smith](#), if your organisation has a new or ongoing requirement for these services and would like to be involved in the UIG and procurement re-let process.



# SG Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) updates

## Civil Engineering DPS (Scotland) - live

The Civil Engineering Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) for projects up to £5 million went live in December 2024 and in February 2025 one of our public sector customers has published the first tender under the system. Currently, the DPS has 26 suppliers. 20 of them are SMEs (77%). Suppliers can apply to join the DPS at any time using the information included within the Contract Notice: [View Notice - Public Contracts Scotland](#).

Additional details on the DPS and how to use it: [Public Procurement and Property Civil Engineering Dynamic Purchasing System \(DPS\) for projects up to £5 million - Public Procurement and Property](#).

If you require further information, please contact the [Collaborative Construction Team](#).

## Requirements Reserved for Supported Businesses DPS (Scotland) - live

The Requirements Reserved for Supported Businesses Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) runs until 8 September 2025. A re-let is underway. Currently, the DPS has 22 supported business suppliers, all are SMEs. Suppliers can apply to join the DPS at any time using the information included within the Contract Notice: [View Notice - Public Contracts Scotland](#).

Additional details on the DPS are available on our website: [Procurement: requirements reserved for supported businesses dynamic purchasing system - gov.scot](#)

New 'Guidance for public sector buyers on purchase of goods and services from Supported Businesses' has been published on the [Procurement Journey](#) with the ministerial foreword from the Minister for Public Finance. Further communications to follow across all public bodies in Scotland.

The new document provides guidance for public sector buyers who procure goods and services, to enable them to better consider how procurement activity is conducted, and contracts are developed, to reduce barriers and enable participation of supported businesses in Public Sector Procurement.

Please contact Scottish Procurement - [Scott McCrindle](#) or [Izabela Wright](#), if your organisation has a new or ongoing requirement for the many goods and services that supported businesses can provide, or if you wish to restrict participation in a tender exercise to a supported business using the legislation which makes this possible referred to as "Reserved Contracts".

## Policy Notices

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

# National Collaborative Procurement Service Enhancement

The NCPD [Service Enhancement Plan](#) was published on 10 March. The plan sets out a two-year road map to improve services and introduce an improved customer account management approach to drive greater value for our customers. A Service Enhancement Programme has been established and a User Intelligence Group with representation from across the public sector will help to guide and inform delivery. Early work is focused on a framework portfolio review, enhancing our approach to communications and engagement and improving access to our framework information.



Read our [Service Enhancement Plan blog](#) to find out more.

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

## Other news

### Water and Waste Water Framework – Water Efficiency Fund

We are pleased to announce that the Business Stream Water Efficiency Fund 2025 will open in April. A benefit of the Scottish Government [Water and Waste Water Framework](#), the annual fund, sponsored by Business Stream, invites applications of up to £100,000 to support water efficiency initiatives in the public sector.

A total of 16 projects received funding during 24/25. These included £12,500 to National Museums of Scotland to conduct water conservation audits across 5 of their sites, £10,000 to Highland Council to invest in a public convenience water efficiency project and £17,841 for Renfrewshire Council to purchase pool covers for Riverbrae Additional Support Needs School.

Invitations to bid for this year's Fund will shortly be issued by Business Stream to customers of the Framework. Questions can be directed to [Stephen Ogilvie](#).