

National Collaborative Procurement Division quarterly bulletin

Welcome to NCPD's quarterly bulletin - November 2025

Since our last bulletin in July, significant progress has been made in a number of areas of our work. A key milestone has been the award of the 1st contract from our Civil Engineering Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) – which reduces barriers to entry for suppliers and provides an easy route to market for buyers. More on both the DPS and complementary framework can be found later in the bulletin.

Also worthy of note is the award of the new national Cat A Frameworks for (a) Publishing, Print, Design and Associated Services (PPDAS) and (b) Mobile Client Devices; and the extension of the Internet of Things DPS until next September. More info on these and other projects is included below.

Last month, a Public Service Reform (PSR) summit was held, where multiple PSR workstreams showcased their work to key public sector stakeholders. My colleague Bridget Lambert led a session on how we're looking to enhance the services offered by our National Collaborative Procurement team.

At the session, we provided background information, high level spend data and examples of opportunities where NCPD could support delivery of even more savings for the public sector. The workshop also encouraged active engagement from delegates to help target the services, shape the delivery model and identify future opportunities and potential barriers / blockers. This generated invaluable feedback on areas for future development, which align closely with our Service Enhancement Plan which is now being implemented.

Finally, our Scotland Innovates service continues to act as an invaluable "front door" for new innovative ideas that have the potential to transform key aspects of NHS patient care – a key recent example being the Scottish Government's commitment to spend £1.9 million to support the delivery of Ambulatory Electrocardiogram (ECG) patch monitors. These have the potential to prevent more than 700 secondary strokes over the next five years, and more than 300 deaths in Scotland.

Calum Elliot
Deputy Director, National Collaborative Procurement

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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

General Office Supplies

Following the annual cost to serve price review, new prices were agreed and applied from 1 September 2025. Based on current spend and volumes, savings of over £300k against the previous framework annual value are expected to be realised. For further information, please visit the <u>framework page</u>.

Marketing Services - relet

The current Marketing Services framework expires on 31 August 2026. Invitation to Tender documents were published on PCS - T on Friday 26 September with a tender deadline of 7 November 2025. This is a multi-lot, multi-supplier framework with tender documents consisting of 7 lots:

- Lot 1 Creative Services over £75,000
- Lot 2 Creative Services below £75,000
- Lot 3 Digital Marketing Services
- Lot 4 Public Relations
- Lot 5 Market Research Services
- Lot 6 Event Services
- Lot 7 Video Production Services



Civil Engineering Framework (Scotland)

Following a successful period of collaboration with construction industry bodies and the public sector, Scottish Government has established its very first Civil Engineering Framework (25 March 2024 to 24 March 2028.

The Framework is for the provision of civil engineering projects for contracts ranging from £5 million to £100 million and covers a full range of civil engineering works and associated services, from general to structural. Most projects will be for roads and bridges and the terms and conditions for both the Framework and Call-off Contracts will be NEC4 with additional clauses already agreed via SG Steering Group with Industry and the Public Sector.

The Civil Engineering Framework is multi-lotted, with a total of eight successful suppliers over three lots:

- Lot 1 General Civil Engineering for projects over £5m up to £25m
- Lot 2 Structural Civil Engineering for projects over £5m up to £25m
- Lot 3 All Civil Engineering for projects over £25m up to £100m

Civil Engineering Dynamic Purchasing System

Four tenders have been issued successfully under the Civil Engineering DPS since it's go-live date at the end of last year. These have allowed a number of public bodies (North Lanarkshire Council, East Lothian Council, Transport Scotland) to establish contracts that cover various types of works (including geotechnical services and roads) and geographical areas.

If you require further information, please contact the Collaborative Construction Team (CCT)

For more information, please visit our blog.

Mobile Client Devices (Laptops and Mobile Workstations)

The relet of the Mobile Client Devices framework agreement has now concluded. The framework is a single-supplier agreement and has been awarded to HP Inc UK Ltd and will commence on 16 November 2025 for an initial period of 24-months with options to extend for a further 24-months.

The framework is open to all Scottish public and 3rd sector organisations and will provide excellent value for money and updated technology for the provision of laptops, mobile workstation devices and monitors along with upgrade/downgrade options, accessories and associated deployment services.

All core device prices will remain fixed for the maximum four year duration of the framework, subject to exchange rate variation. Further information including a buyer guide will be provided in due course on our website. Please contact <u>Anamaria Liddle</u> or <u>Lisa Pittman_formation</u>.

Desktop Client Devices

The first 12-month extension option has been taken up for the Desktop Client Devices framework agreement which now has an end date of 31 August 2026. This single supplier framework with HP Inc UK Ltd offers the following core devices:

- corporate desktop PC
- a range of flat panel monitors
- fixed workstation.

There is also a range of services associated with the deployment of desktop client devices, together with a range of upgrades, downgrades, accessories and complementary desktop client devices.

This framework offers excellent savings with prices significantly lower than current market pricing, and which have recently been reduced. It also offers excellent environmental and sustainability benefits. Please contact <u>Anamaria Liddle</u> or <u>Lisa Pittman</u> for more information.

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

Following an open competition process, a new national Cat A Framework for Publishing, Print, Design and Associated Services (PPDAS) was awarded to APS Group (Scotland) Ltd commencing on 1 October 2025.

This is a single supplier framework providing a range of publishing, print design and associated services to the Scottish public sector under an account managed customer focused service. Further information can be found on our <u>publishing</u>, <u>print design and associated services</u> <u>webpage</u>.



Internet of Things Dynamic Purchasing System

Our Internet of Things (IoT) Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) has been extended for a further 12 months and is now due to expire on 18 September 2026.

The DPS offers the Scottish public sector a route to market for IoT technologies and Services. Due to the wide and diverse nature of IoT, it is not possible to list all categories of technologies and services envisaged but examples include:

- device management
- data
- analytics
- application enablement
- security
- IoT related hardware sensors, gateways, and on-premise infrastructure etc.
- IoT enablement, advice and implementation services etc.

The current supplier list can be found on our <u>website</u> and this will updated periodically. Please contact <u>David Box</u> (07919 014604) or <u>Lisa Pittman</u> (07345 473360) for further information.

Policy Notices

All <u>Scottish Procurement Policy Notes</u> can be found on our website.

Other news

Community Benefits Joint Development Session



On 23 October the national collaborative procurement team came together with Renfrewshire Council's procurement and economic development teams to take part in a joint workshop, focusing on how we can maximise the social value delivered through our frameworks. Presentations from Renfrewshire Council staff provided examples of their own approach to inclusion of Community Benefits (CBs) and the positive impacts CBs can have on the lives of people living and working in Renfrewshire.

Business Stream came along and spoke about their strong focus on Corporate Social Responsibility (CRS) and the range of Community Benefits they offer through the Water and Waste Water Billing Framework. They also noted that uptake of many of the CBs on offer has been really low and asked if we could encourage more engagement with them to explore how Business Stream could deliver CB's in partnership with schools, colleges and other public bodies across Scotland.

Round table workshop sessions in the afternoon provided an opportunity to consider how we can improve access to the CBs offered through national frameworks and how we can engage earlier with our suppliers to ensure that we benefit from their expertise and enthusiasm for delivering social value. The session also highlighted that we need to get better at communicating the extent of benefits which are available through our frameworks.

We are really keen to work more closely with the Anchor Institutions and economic development teams across Scotland to ensure that Scottish communities have access to and benefit from the social value offered through our frameworks. If you would like to know more about the CBs available, please get in touch with the framework owner. Their details are published in the Buyers Guide, or contact <u>Bridget Lambert</u>.

ECG Patch Monitors

The Scottish Government have committed to spending £1.9 million to support the delivery of Ambulatory Electrocardiogram (ECG) patch monitors, with the potential to prevent more than 700 secondary strokes over the next five years, and more than 300 deaths in Scotland.



The devices are small, easy to use and allow doctors to make prompt, effective decisions about further treatment. Worn on the skin, the devices are wireless, water resistant and are used for up to 14 days to detect heart rhythm abnormalities, particularly atrial fibrillation which is a leading cause of stroke.

The devices will help the NHS by:

- freeing up the equivalent of 15.7 full-time cardiac physiologists for other vital services
- reducing diagnosis and treatment times from up to 24 months to just three weeks
- cost savings for the NHS could amount to £14.6 million over five years
- helping to eliminate regional disparities in diagnosis and treatment

This project is a key part of the Scottish Government's plan to modernise the NHS and is being delivered through the Accelerated National Innovation Adoption (ANIA) pathway. It was put forward through Scottland Innovates – a platform the national supplier led innovation service that makes it easier for industry partners to suggest new technologies for use across the entire Scottish Public Sector, including the NHS.

Starting in November 2026, ECG Patch Monitors will be introduced across Scotland in a phased rollout over the following 12 months.

Dr Faheem Ahmad, Consultant Cardiologist & Cardiology Innovation Lead at QEUH Glasgow & WoS Innovation Hub said:

"Scotland Innovates has helped provide a clear and accessible front door for businesses, clinicians and academics to bring forward ideas that can transform patient care. The pathway has been key in moving ECG patch technology through the final stages from a tested concept to being considered for national adoption, ensuring innovations with strong clinical and economic evidence are scaled quickly across NHS Scotland. By streamlining engagement and linking proposals into the Innovation Hubs and into the ANIA process, Scotland Innovates helps us modernise services, improve outcomes and reduce health inequalities."

Scotland Innovates has so far received 230 submissions through the service in diverse areas such as low-cost hydrogen production, detection of atrial fibrillation (major cause of stroke), prevention of infant new born deafness to lung cancer – AI and circular economy lighting. Scotland Innovates receives submissions from businesses for innovative goods and services which may be beneficial to the entire Public Sector. To date, 40 submissions have had successful routes to markets or landing zones identified. 'Successful' can be defined as a trial, pilot, research and development, purchase, or signposted for possible addition to new or existing Procurement Framework/DPS. From all submissions over 80% - market ready and over 90% - SMEs. The service continues to receive strong support from business.

For more information, please contact: <u>Gary Robinson</u>, or <u>Steven Patterson</u> or <u>David Beattie</u>. If you know of a business that has an innovative product or service please ask them to register on Scotland Innovates.