



National Collaborative Procurement Division - quarterly bulletin

Welcome to NCPD's quarterly bulletin - May 2026

Since my last update, I've been pleased to welcome Colin Bell as Acting Head of Collaborative Procurement, providing strategic oversight of the work of our four portfolio teams (Utilities; ICT, Corporate & Professional Services and Construction). Amie Forster has also joined us from UK Government to lead the Utilities team.

The last few weeks have seen lots of activity to mitigate the impact of inflationary pressures on our customers – notable examples being the spike in energy prices due to the Middle East conflict; and increased ICT products prices due to memory capacity shortages largely fuelled by the rise of AI. In the case of energy, our strategy of buying energy well in advance of the period of consumption affords us a high degree of protection this financial year.

In my last update, I mentioned that we were entering the next phase of our service enhancement (SE) journey. I'm pleased to say that my colleague Suzanne Reid is now leading this work on a full-time basis, with an action plan and initial deliverables now developed, incorporating SE and our direct Public Sector Reform (PSR) commitments, to deliver improved commercial outcomes. More details of our work in this area will follow in our next quarterly bulletin or you can contact [Suzanne Reid](#) directly.

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.

eProcurement and Management Information

In late 2025, part of the eProcurement and Management Information Division joined the National Collaborative Procurement Division. The branch is split into two teams, with one team supporting business as usual activities across Public Contracts Scotland (PCS) portal and PCS-Tender system, along with leading on the new Source to Contract (S2C) solution which will replace our current systems with one fully integrated S2C platform. The second team manage the ongoing development and roll out of the Management Information Platform Scotland (MIPS) and provide continued support for the Procurement Information Hub.

Both areas have a busy and exciting year ahead, look out for a fuller update later in this bulletin.

Public Contracts Scotland (PCS)

[Public Contracts Scotland](#) was launched in 2008 and is the national advertising website for Scottish public bodies to post higher value regulated procurement notices to the UK e-notification service, known as the Find a Tender (FTS) system, lower-value notices and subsequent contract awards. Contracting authorities can also issue low value requests for quotations. Since 2012 the system has also enabled main contractors on public sector contracts to advertise sub-contract opportunities, giving smaller firms the chance to bid for contracts further down the supply chain.

From 1 January to 31 March 2026, for PCS there were:

- 974 above threshold notices were published - these included 400 Contract Award Notices and 316 Calls for Competition
- 2,395 Quick Quotes were issued
- 1,714 Quick Quotes were awarded
- 265 Buyer Users Registered

To meet the requirements of the new Social Care Act, additional changes were made to information contained within the notice creation. These changes highlighted to Buyers the requirements for reserved contracts for social care contained within Regulation 76A.

The PCS service is provided by Proactis Ltd and managed by Scottish Procurement.

Public Contracts Scotland-Tender (PCS-T)

The Scottish Government provides a secure and efficient means for buyers and suppliers to manage procurement tender exercises online. The standard templates provided enable buyers to create consistent tender documentation more easily, helping them to adhere to legislation, policy and procurement procedures and provides a standard, best practice approach to public sector procurement.

From 1 January to 31 March 2026, for PCS-T there were:

- 522 Projects were started within the PCS –Tender system
- 747 ITTs were created within PCS-Tender
- 543 ITTs were issued from PCS-Tender

Additionally, the latest update to the system, JA26.1 was released on 30 March. Other changes within PCS-T saw the Introduction of CAPTCHA functionality at Supplier Registration stage and the inclusion of some new Chatbot functionality.

Jaggaer (previously BravoSolution) operates the system on behalf of Scottish Government.

If you would like more information on PCS or PCS-Tender, please contact pcs-tender@gov.scot

Management Information Platform Scotland (MIPS)



The Management Information Platform Scotland (MIPS) provides a secure, cloud-based shared service that delivers a consistent and validated view of procurement data across the Scottish public sector. By integrating data from eProcurement Shared Service systems and local datasets, MIPS enhances national reporting capability through a comprehensive suite of business intelligence tools, including dashboards and standardised and self-service reports.

The platform improves the quality and consistency of procurement data, establishes a single source of truth, and enables more informed, sustainable analysis and decisions that deliver national and local benefits. It also creates new analytical capabilities through automation and emerging artificial intelligence tools, supporting greater insight, shared learning, and more sophisticated analysis of procurement management information to meet growing policy and reporting requirements.

This year, we have continued with a programme of engagement sessions aimed at helping users get more value from MIPS. These sessions support users to better understand their data, enable us to iterate our reporting, and collect feedback on emerging needs. This helps ensure the platform remains agile and responds to reporting and analytical requirements across our user base. MIPS is available for use across the public sector and continues to expand its user base in partnership with public bodies seeking to enhance their procurement management information.

Procurement Information Hub (formerly spikes)

The Procurement Information Hub enables organisations to analyse spend data to identify collaborative opportunities and improve transactional efficiency, providing visibility of expenditure with third-party suppliers and key suppliers. It offers insight into invoicing activity across the public sector, highlights commonality across suppliers and spend categories, and supports analysis of spend with SME's (small and medium-sized Enterprises) as well as local suppliers.

Funded by the Scottish Government, the Hub delivers annual spend analysis for over 100 Scottish public sector organisations and informs both Annual Procurement Reports and the Scottish Ministers' Annual Report, while enabling reporting on spend with individual suppliers and commodity areas, though not at contract level.

The team recently met with the Hub's supplier, DXC, as part of a roadmap session to review opportunities for enhancement. The session provided a solid foundation for a planned deep-dive workshop in May to explore potential development areas in more detail.

If you would like more information regarding the solutions offered by the Management Information Branch, please contact procurementmidata@gov.scot.

Source to Contract project

In 2024, the Source to Contract Project was launched to bring PCS and PCS-Tender together into a single, national solution.

Throughout 2025, colleagues from across the public sector played a vital role in shaping the specification for the new solution, supported by extensive engagement with the supply base. Bids were received in March 2026 and the project has now moved into the tender evaluation phase. This will continue throughout 2026.

We look forward to sharing further updates as the project progresses.

Civil Engineering Framework

As the Framework enters its next phase, we are looking forward to launching new projects early in the year. Through close collaboration with public sector organisations and project teams, our focus is on delivering a strong and effective route to market for key civil engineering opportunities in Scotland. The Framework has also secured an extension to 24 March 2030.

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 £5 million up to £25 million

Lot 2 - Structural Civil Engineering for projects over £5 million up to £25 million

Lot 3 - All Civil Engineering for projects over £25 million up to £100 million

The Civil Engineering DPS for projects up to £5 million has recently completed its first financial year. Over the last 12 months, six tenders have been issued successfully under the DPS, and five contracts have already been awarded by various public bodies (North Lanarkshire Council, East Lothian Council, Transport Scotland).

The Collaborative Construction Team (CCT) will continue to engage with internal and external stakeholders to ensure the quality of the Civil Engineering DPS is maintained and improved, and to spread awareness of the system within the Scottish public sector.

SG Software Value Added Reseller Services Framework extension

The Scottish Government [Software Value Added Reseller Services framework](#) has now been extended!

The framework commenced on 1 May 2023 for an initial two-year period with the option of 2 x 12-month extension periods. Scottish Procurement has utilised the final optional extension period and the framework will now expire 30 April 2027.

This Single-supplier framework is available to all Scottish public bodies and Third Sector on a direct award basis.



The framework includes:

- commercial off the shelf software (COTS) i.e. software which is widely available and does not require development
- annual maintenance services for purchased software - annual maintenance will include the rights to upgrade to the most current version of the software at no cost to the purchaser
- support services either directly or via a third-party provider. Including but not limited to those associated with software support, implementation, and configuration
- asset recording of purchased software
- warranty support
- aggregation of bulk software purchases (bringing together organisations with similar purchases to identify savings)
- management and administration of price competitions between software options to identify further savings
- pre and post sales advice and support relating to the suitability, application and deployment of software and licences
- maintenance of software licence records through asset management, software audit, and data migration services
- consultancy services

The framework does not include:

- bespoke software solutions
- hardware
- ICT services
- outsourced services

Call-off contracts placed against this framework must be placed prior to the framework expiry date however the duration of any call-off contracts may continue beyond the framework expiry date.



Scotland's Public Sector National Liquid Fuels Contract

The existing Liquid Fuels contract for Scotland's Public (including Third) Sector will end on 31 March 2027.

We are considering the future procurement strategy for provision of liquid fuel to Scotland's Public (and Third) Sector from April 2027. We are particularly keen to consider how we involve and engage with SMEs. We want organisations to have their say in how we can best shape procurement of liquid fuels going forward, so have your say!

A short questionnaire has been put together to gather perspectives. The deadline for response is 5pm on 29 May 2026. It should take no more than 10 minutes (subject to information provided). You can access the questionnaire on [Microsoft Forms](#).

Policy Notices

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