

DPS Schedule 1 – Specification

Introduction

This Schedule sets out what we and our buyers want.

The Deliverables and any Standards set out below may be refined (to the extent permitted and set out in the Order Form) by a Buyer during an Order Procedure to reflect its Deliverables Requirements for entering a particular Order Contract.

Dynamic Purchasing System Scope

Background

The Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) works to accelerate innovation, investment and productivity through world-class science, ensure that new and existing technologies are safely developed and deployed across the UK and drive forward a modern digital government for the benefit of its citizens.

These goals, like many of the shared goals of government, requires robust scientific research and advice to enable greater evidence-based decision-making.

Therefore, DSIT is proposing a new Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) for government to more effectively procure a range of scientific services from specialist suppliers. The intention is to allow policy teams working across government departments and Arms-Length Bodies (ALBs) the opportunity to access cutting-edge research, scientific advice and services from relevant experts to support delivery of government aims.

A full list of the *Contracting Bodies* that will be able to access this DPS can be found at: [Departments, agencies and public bodies - GOV.UK](#)

** If you believe your organisation should be in scope and included in list, please raise this with GOV.uk using the contact details at the bottom of the link*

DPS Aim, Objectives and Scope

DSIT's purpose is driving economic growth, improving the performance and productivity of government and empowering citizens.

We will achieve our purpose by maximising:

- the impact of government action to support R&D, science and technology on the UK's national and regional growth.
- value for money for the taxpayer by applying AI and digital technologies to transform the citizen's experience of public service by making it more effective, convenient and productive.
- the control people can exercise over their interaction with government by widening and deepening their digital skills, knowledge and trust in technology.

We propose this DPS as a method of simplifying access to scientific research and advice within government, impacting policymaking and delivery by better evidencing decision-

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making. This will reduce barriers to procuring R&D inputs across government, raise awareness of public and private organisations that can deliver scientific solutions, and ultimately improving the performance and productivity of government functions.

We anticipate this DPS will be utilised for research and development projects across a wide variety of scientific and technological fields in these broad areas:

- *chemistry, engineering, mathematical sciences, physics, metrology, and materials*
- *biology, health research, infections and immunity, neurosciences and mental health*
- *atmospheric physics and chemistry, geosciences, ecology, biodiversity and climate*
- *astronomy, particle and nuclear physics, accelerator science and computational science*
- *Clean energy, nuclear, fusion, fission*
- *plants, animals (including humans) and microbes*

(more fields may be considered).

The DPS is seeking expert science organisations with the in-house laboratory capability to design, conduct and disseminate scientific research projects for government departments. These projects may be highly diverse but should directly support government policy and decision-making through producing scientific evidence, with the goal of improving the evidence base that policy teams throughout government rely on, leading to greater opportunities to maximise societal benefits across the UK.

Suppliers may be commissioned to undertake scientific reviews, design and carry out experiments, or provide expert/technical advice on specific policy options for use by the public sector.

DPS Example Projects

To aid Suppliers in outlining the intended scope of this DPS, we have provided some hypothetical projects that could be procured via this DPS below:

- A team working on hydrogen storage and refuelling policy wishes to procure research investigating the efficiency of a variety of pipe and pump designs. This may include research into hydrogen viscosity, volume, pressure and electrical/mechanical efficiency. Therefore, teams of metrologists, physicists, engineers and materials scientists may be best placed to undertake this research.
- A policy team, working in a cutting-edge technological space, such as AI or quantum, seek to better understand potential alternative applications of the technology. Therefore, they might wish to procure research which leads to the creation of prototypes or demonstrations of “proof-of-concept” for new applications of the technology. The scientists/engineers/technologists to approach would depend on the technology and field of research, but outcomes could be varied and highlight previously unknown or underreported dual usages of modern technology, which could then feed into the government policy advice.
- A team working on the risks of the changing climate on our farming system wishes to procure research investigating the risk of different plant diseases across a variety of climate change temperature models. This may include research into climate and the environment, plant/animal health and genetics. Therefore, teams

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including climate, meteorological and atmospheric scientists, as well as ecologists, biologists and biostatisticians may be best placed to undertake this research.

*** these examples are for information only and are not an exhaustive list or areas this DPS will be used for*

Who can request to Participate?

You can submit a request to participate as a single legal entity. Alternatively, you can work together with other legal entities to form a Group of Economic Operators. If you do, we ask the Group of Economic Operators to choose a lead member who will submit the bid on behalf of the Group of Economic Operators and you will have to identify what each of the parties is contributing to the bid.

We recognise that arrangements in relation to Subcontracting and Groups of Economic Operators may be subject to future change, and may not be finalised until a later date. However, any changes to those arrangements may affect your ability to deliver the PS25001 Scientific Research and Advice requirements, you must therefore, tell us about any changes to the proposed Subcontracting or to the Group of Economic Operators. If you do not, you may be excluded from participating in this competition.

We do not require all Subcontractors to be disclosed. You need only disclose those Subcontractors who directly contribute to your ability to meet your obligations under your DPS Appointment (including under any Contract Agreement following a Competition Procedure).

There is no need to specify Subcontractors providing general services to the Supplier that indirectly enable the Supplier to perform the DPS Appointment.

DPS User Access and Mini Competition Process

Following launch of the DPS, the Contracting Authority or Contracting Bodies wishing to utilise this Agreement, will be required to request authorisation using a 'DPS User Access Agreement'.

The DPS User Access Agreement will allow UKSBS to ensure that Mini Competitions run under this DPS are compliant to the indicative DPS scope and keep Awarded spend within the £9,000,000 budget advertised.

The DPS can be utilised the secure Contracts ranging from £10,000 - £250,000 excluding VAT.

Contracts over £250,000 may be possible in instances where the Contracting Authority approve on a case-by-case basis.

Mini Competition Process

Any resulting Contract called off from this DPS can only be secured following completion of a Mini Competition. Direct award under the DPS is not possible.

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A Mini Competition will be advertised to all awarded DPS Suppliers, at which point it will be the Suppliers decision on whether, following a review of the defined scope of services, they wish to submit a bid.

How a Mini Competition will be evaluated will be clearly defined within the Contracting Authority or Contracting bodies Mini Competition documentation.

The recommendation for weightings on Mini Competitions are:

Criteria	Percentage Weightings
Technical	5% - 95%
Social Value	0% - 10%
Commercial	95% - 0%

The Contracting Authority or Contracting Bodies undertaking the Mini Competition will set their procurement weightings and weighting criteria based on proportionality to what is being advertised.

Mini Competitions should, as a minimum be advertised for a minimum 10 working days to allow Suppliers a reasonable amount of time to review and provide a formal response to the Weighted criteria posed.

The Contracting Authority and Contracting Bodies reserve the right to flex the advertising timescales based on the urgency and nature of the requirement. The proportionality of time for responses will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Mini Competition Contact details

As part of a Suppliers DPS Application, you will be required to provide a dedicated named account lead who will be the point of contact when Mini Competitions are advertised. It is the Suppliers responsibility to keep their contact details up to date. When updates to contact details are required Suppliers should contact professionalservices@uksbs.co.uk

Management Information and DPS KPI's

As part of a Suppliers DPS Application, you will be required to confirm that you will provide quarterly returns of the requested Management Information. Details of the KPIs and Management Information required under this DPS can be found within DPS Schedule 5 – DPS Management.

Full details of the rules surrounding the application, running and management of the DPS can be found within Appendix B – PS25001 – DPS Management.

DPS Term

It is intended that the Dynamic Purchasing System will be in operation for a period of 3 years 10 months with no option to extend. Any change in DPS term will be notified to all

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Suppliers on the DPS at that time and advertised in line with the prevailing national regulations.

In the event that the PS25001 DPS is terminated, the Contracting Authority shall give the Suppliers no less than 3 months written notice.

The Contracting Authority acknowledges that the PS25001 DPS will not be terminated within the initial first 6 months from the commencement date.