

Contract Reference_16048

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Infrastructure Delivery Partner.

Pre-Procurement Market Engagement.

20th May 2025.

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1. Introduction

The Home Office will be adopting the Crown Commercial Services (CCS) Framework (RM6200) for Artificial Intelligence as the route to market. This market engagement notice is to notify the AI supplier community of the potential opportunity and to enable suppliers to register or align themselves ready via the CCS Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS).

Dynamic Purchasing Systems - Supplier Registration Service

Therefore, to be able to submit a tender and participate, you must be registered as a supplier on the DPS Dynamic Purchasing System ASAP. Please note that this can take up to 15 days;

- ✓ Register on the DPS by following the below link by 5pm (UK time) on 6th of June 2025. https://supplierregistration.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/organisation/register
- ✓ The Home Office will pull a shortlist on 9th of June 2025 based on the available suppliers being registered and available on DPS Dynamic Purchasing System.
- ✓ Please note that it is the <u>Suppliers responsibility</u> to ensure they are registered on the DPS and showing live prior to this date.
- ✓ Please note <u>only</u> suppliers who get shortlisted will be added and invited to the ITT tender stage and be able to view & submit a bid via the CCS Public Procurement Gateway portal <u>Crown Commercial Service C&SM</u>. If you do not hear from the Home Office this means your company has not been successful with the shortlisting process.

The Home Office is looking to award a 1year contract with the option to extend for a further 1+1 year for an AI delivery partner to support the creation of central AI infrastructure for the department. This capability is required to meet ambitions set out in the Prime Minister's AI Action Plan and the subsequent departmental demand for AI. The maximum contract value is approx. £3m for the first year, other optional extensions are subject to budget and funding availability.

2. Disclaimer

- 1. The pre-procurement market engagement notice does not indicate that any procurement activity has started, will start, nor that your organisation has been granted any special status.
- 2. The Home Office is not bound to any course of action (including concluding a contract with any supplier) as a result of pre-procurement market engagement.
- 3. The Home Office reserves the right to issue anonymised outputs from preprocurement market engagement to all potential providers.

- 4. The Home Office reserves the right to amend the scope or timing of preprocurement market engagement at any time.
- 5. During the ITT stage suppliers are to communicate only via the CCS Public Procurement Gateway portal <u>Crown Commercial Service C&SM</u> and not to contact any Home Office individuals.
- 6. Participation in pre-procurement market engagement activity is undertaken at participants' own cost and expense.

3. Timescales

The indicative timescales for the DPS procurement are as follows:

Activity	Date
Issue pre-procurement market engagement notice.	20 th May to 6 th June
Shortlist suppliers using DPS Marketplace sourcing tool.	9 th June
Publish ITT tender pack to short listed suppliers.	17 th of June
Clarification period.	17 th June to 2 nd July
Deadline for all incoming tender submissions.	4 th of July
Evaluation Period.	7 th of July
Compliance checks with preferred supplier.	14 th to 18 th of July
Award of contract.	28 th of July

4. Business information

The Home Office is looking to create a new central DDaT capability to support Al adoption at scale. We are proposing to develop a central "Al as a Service" which will enable users across the department to access tailored Al tools without the need to build or maintain the technology themselves. Through this, we can significantly reduce the cost and speed of Al adoption with a build once and use many times approach.

Although not limited to, the service will have a particular focus on the use of Generative Al to solve common wide-spread problems. This multi-cloud service will be end to end, from problem statement to live, including model selection, assurance, evaluation and ongoing monitoring.

Additional capacity and expertise via a delivery partner is essential to progress this work at the pace required to meet departmental demand. The delivery partner will be working under Civil Service leadership, alongside the wider Automation & Innovation Team.