

Construction Products Supply Chain – Market Engagement Information

Introduction

The Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) was created in January 2018 to deliver consumer protection and to support business confidence, productivity and growth. We regulate a wide range of products with a focus on their safety and integrity. We work with local, national and international regulators, with consumer representatives and with businesses to deliver effective protections and to support compliance.

Our mission is to be a trusted product regulator for the UK. This means protecting people and places, enabling business to thrive and empowering consumers to make good choices. We will be a leader of good regulatory practice and a champion of local regulation.

OPSS is:

- the national regulator for all consumer products, except for vehicles, medicines and food.
- the national regulator for legal metrology, ensuring weighing and measuring instruments are accurate and reliable.

Suppliers are strongly encouraged to read the text at the following link in order to gain a full understanding of the role of the enforcement services with Government:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-regulation-enforcement-services>

Description

As the new national regulator for construction products¹, the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) will work closely with the Building Safety Regulator and local regulators to promote, encourage and enforce good practice in the construction industry. OPSS will focus on immediate impact and long-term culture change to protect future residents and the built environment; tackling non-compliance and establishing new norms that restore public confidence in the industry. The role of OPSS as National Construction Product Regulator is to lead and coordinate the construction product regulatory system.

OPSS is currently building its capacity and understanding in this area. In our shadow form, we are undertaking market analysis and aiming to develop a robust evidence base which will underpin our activities. In order to understand how the construction product market functions, we will be commissioning research that will evaluate the United Kingdom supply chains systems for a selected number of products.

The supply chain is the interconnected system of supply contracts and information transfer necessary to procure a built asset. The project will investigate the cradle to installation supply chains processes to provide a deeper understanding of the market. The first phase of research will focus on an initial list of products: insulation, cladding, fire doors, fire barriers and cables. This research will form a baseline on which a series of research proposals on supply chains are expected to be developed.

¹ MHCLG, 2021, New regulator established to ensure construction materials are safe

A final report and presentation of findings, with an interim report (aim: September/October 2021). There will also be agreed research instruments, such as market data analysis, literature review and stakeholder engagement.

- I. Evidence basis for size of the market, main sellers and distributors in the UK for high priority construction products
- II. Detailed overview of supply chain process (cradle to installation) providing evidence of how products are produced, sold, marketed, purchased and what information is provided at each step, in relation to technical details.

This contract is expected to run from **August 2021 to March 2022** and the budget is expected to be in the region of £120,000.

Supplier Engagement

The supplier engagement session will be held on Thursday 15th July 2021 at 13:00-14:00 via Microsoft Teams. Please register your interest with the fmprocurement@uksbs.co.uk by 17:00 on Tuesday 13th July 2021.

This engagement notice is being issued to undertake a market consultation exercise with regards to the current view of requirement detailed above. If you believe that this will be of interest to you and your organisation, please register your interest by sending an email to the following email address: fmprocurement@uksbs.co.uk

By registering and attending you will be engaging in non-competitive dialogue which will enable BEIS to develop and assess the market's appetite, and views on formulation of its requirements.

The session will last approximately one hour and comprise of the following:

- Overview of the Department and the requirements
- Open floor discussion and Q&A

BEIS may consider the information and responses received as part of the preliminary market consultation to help inform the specification and further decision making in relation to the planning and conduct of the proposed procurement.

For the avoidance of doubt, this notice is not a Call for Competition; a Contract Notice will be issued as a call for competition. Not registering interest shall not prevent any supplier participating in a future procurement, nor is it intended that any information supplied as part of the preliminary market consultation shall place any supplier at an advantage in a potential procurement process.