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Award

Centre for AI Measurement

Department for Science, Innovation & Technology

UK5: Transparency notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-000951

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0600b1 ([view related notices](#))

Published 7 January 2026, 10:39am

Scope

Description

Establishing a new Centre for AI Measurement. The Centre will host a programme of work to:

- a) Establish a centre of excellence focussed on enabling and accelerating the creation of new testing and evaluation tools for AI systems (the Centre for AI Measurement).
 - b) Create a programme of research and development on good practice, evaluation and performance measures for AI systems, with a focus on highly capable AI systems.
 - c) Support industry in developing, validating and verifying new products and services for AI assurance.
 - d) Coordinate knowledge sharing and communication within the AI assurance sector, those furthering the science of measurement with regard to AI, and international partners.
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Contract 1. Centre for AI Measurement

Supplier

- National Physical Laboratory Limited

Contract value

- £10,500,000 excluding VAT
- £12,600,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

19 January 2026

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2030
- 4 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

Single supplier - technical reasons

Direct award is justified under Procurement Regulations 24, Schedule 5, point 6, due to the absence of competition for technical reasons and the lack of reasonable alternatives.

Supplier

National Physical Laboratory Limited

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PYDB-8862-JBYM

National Physical Laboratory, Hampton Road, Teddington, Middlesex, England

Teddington

TW11 0LW

United Kingdom

Email: enquiry@npl.co.uk

Region: UKI75 - Hounslow and Richmond upon Thames

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. Centre for AI Measurement

Contracting authority

Department for Science, Innovation & Technology

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVWZ-3216-PVQL

22 Whitehall

London

SW1A 2EG

United Kingdom

Email: aiocommercial@dsit.gov.uk

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Organisation type: Public authority - central government