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Tender

002713 British Library Conservation, Bindery & Enclosures Framework

British Library

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-001016

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0600dd

Published 7 January 2026, 12:05pm

Scope

Reference

002713

Description

The British Library is seeking to establish a framework arrangement with suppliers who can demonstrate their capability in providing high quality conservation and binding services to Library collections. The framework is divided into 3 Lots, and the British Library anticipates appointing between 1 and 6 suppliers per Lot.

This tender is divided by 'Lots' based on types of treatment, and tenderers are invited to bid for any combination of Lots, which fall broadly into the three following categories:

- 1.Lot 1 - Conservation of volumes covered in leather, cloth, buckram or paper as well as general paper conservation
- 2.Lot 2 - Rebinding and binding of unbound material, including lettering

3.Lot 3 - Buckram-covered enclosures for Library collections, including lettering

For more information about this opportunity, please visit the Delta eSourcing portal at:

<https://www.delta-esourcing.com/tenders/UK-UK-London:-Bookbinding-and-finishing-services./78G8645358>

To respond to this opportunity, please click here:

<https://www.delta-esourcing.com/respond/78G8645358>

Total value (estimated)

- £1,800,000 excluding VAT
- £2,160,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027
- Possible extension to 1 April 2030
- 4 years, 1 day

Description of possible extension:

The duration of the framework arrangement will be an initial period of 12 months commencing on the 1 April 2026 with a further three optional 12-month extensions thereafter. The total maximum duration of the framework arrangement will therefore be four years from 1 April 2026.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 79971000 - Bookbinding and finishing services
- 79971200 - Bookbinding services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Lot constraints

Description of how multiple lots may be awarded:

The framework is divided into 3 Lots, and the British Library anticipates appointing between 1 and 6 suppliers per Lot.

There is no limit of Lots Tenderers can apply for.

Lot Lot 1. Conservation of volumes covered in leather, cloth, buckram or paper as well as general paper conservation

Description

Please download and refer to the ITT for full description of the Lots.

This lot includes the following treatments:

- Dry cleaning
- Aqueous treatment (flattening only)
- Guarding, tipping in
- Substrate repair, consolidation and lining
- Hand sewing
- Machine sewing
- Covering material repair, consolidation

oLeather

oParchment/vellum

oBuckram/book cloth

oPaper

- Reback (tight and hollow), board reattachment, recreating/replacing covers

oLeather

oParchment/vellum

oBuckram/book cloth

oPaper

- Lettering
- Pressure-sensitive tape/label removal
- Staple removal
- Slipping bolts
- Insert original covers into a new binding

-Re-casing of textblock in original covers

Lot value (estimated)

- £1,260,000 excluding VAT
- £1,512,000 including VAT

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot 2.Lot 2. Rebinding and binding of unbound material, including lettering

Description

Download and review Tender documents for full details.

Lot 2: Rebinding and binding of unbound material, including lettering

This lot includes the following treatments:

- Hand sewing
- Machine sewing
- Rebinding in the following styles
 - oPamphlet
 - oCase
 - oSplit-board

-New bindings for previously unbound material in the following styles:

oPamphlet

oCase

oSplit-board

oGuard-book

oPost-binder

oQuarter-flush cloth

-Lettering

-Insert original covers into a new binding

Lot value (estimated)

- £360,000 excluding VAT
- £432,000 including VAT

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot Lot 3. Buckram-covered enclosures for Library collections, including lettering

Description

Download and review Tender Document for full details.

Lot 3: Buckram-covered enclosures for Library collections, including lettering

This lot includes the following:

- Drop-back boxes, made of permanent board, put together with EVA and covered in permanent buckram with permanent paper tray linings
- Four-flap folders, made of permanent board, put together with EVA and covered in permanent buckram with permanent paper linings
- Lettering

Lot value (estimated)

- £180,000 excluding VAT
- £216,000 including VAT

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Participation

Particular suitability

Lot Lot 1. Conservation of volumes covered in leather, cloth, buckram or paper as well as general paper conservation

Lot 2.Lot 2. Rebinding and binding of unbound material, including lettering

Lot Lot 3. Buckram-covered enclosures for Library collections, including lettering

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

23 January 2026, 12:00am

Tender submission deadline

2 February 2026, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

<https://www.delta-esourcing.com>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

6 March 2026

Award criteria

Name	Type	Weighting
Criterion 2	Quality	80%
Criterion 1	Price	20%

Other information

Applicable trade agreements

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Contracting authority

British Library

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PCXZ-9362-XQJM

British Library, 96 Euston Road

London

NW1 2DB

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@bl.uk

Region: UKI31 - Camden and City of London

Organisation type: Public authority - central government