

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/004801-2026>

Award

UK5 - Transparency Notice

Ministry of Defence

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

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-004801

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0609ed ([view related notices](#))

Published 20 January 2026, 12:49pm

Scope

Reference

DNO/493

Description

UK Nuclear Sector labour market assessment to drive future recruitment strategy.

Contract 1. DNO/493 Delivery of the Labour Market Intelligence Report

Supplier

- COGENT SKILLS SERVICES LTD

Contract value

- £1,152,000 excluding VAT
- £1,382,400 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

6 February 2026

Contract dates (estimated)

- 9 February 2026 to 31 March 2028
- 2 years, 1 month, 20 days

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 73210000 - Research consultancy services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

- Single supplier - intellectual property or exclusive rights
- Single supplier - technical reasons

In accordance with Schedule 5, paragraph 5 of the Procurement Act 2023, the Authority considers a direct award to be justified on the basis that Cogent Skills Services Ltd are

the only supplier capable of delivering the required Nuclear Workforce Assessment (NWA) service without disproportionate cost, delay, or risk to value for money.

Cogent holds unique and non replicable capabilities essential to the successful delivery of this requirement, including:

- Proprietary historic datasets underpinning the Nuclear Workforce Assessment (NWA), developed and maintained since 2015;
- Specialist technical expertise in nuclear labour market modelling, built over multiple iterations of the NWA; and
- Established relationships and data sharing arrangements with nuclear sector organisations formalised through the Nuclear Sector Executive Council (NSEC).

Cogent has been the sole developer and publisher of the NWA for over a decade, independently refining the methodology and recovering costs directly from sector organisations through individual contributions. The Authority does not own, nor does it hold rights to, previous iterations of the NWA or the underlying datasets. Continuity of methodology and data is critical for tracking trends, ensuring comparability across years, and measuring the effectiveness of the Nuclear Skills Plan (NSP). No alternative provider could replicate the existing dataset or methodology without incurring substantial development time and cost, which would materially undermine both value for money and the timely delivery of the NSP. On this basis, Cogent is the only provider capable of delivering the required service in a way that preserves continuity, avoids duplication of cost, and protects the integrity of the sector-wide evidence base.

Supplier

COGENT SKILLS SERVICES LTD

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PLDR-3797-CGLZ
- Companies House: 07806185

720 Mandarin Court

Warrington

WA1 1GG

United Kingdom

Email: info@cogentskills.com

Region: UKD61 - Warrington

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. DNO/493 Delivery of the Labour Market Intelligence Report

Contracting authority

Ministry of Defence

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHVX-4316-ZVGZ

Abbey Wood

Bristol

BS34 8JH

United Kingdom

Email: dne-supplychain@mod.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-defence>

Region: UKK12 - Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire

Organisation type: Public authority - central government