

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/012152-2026>

Award

AI platform for use by Staff and Students at The University Of Kent

The University Of Kent

UK6: Contract award notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-012152

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05fa54 ([view related notices](#))

Published 10 February 2026, 6:44pm

Scope

Reference

MR25_009

Description

The University of Kent has procured an enterprise-grade Generative AI platform to support teaching, learning, research, accessibility, and operational efficiency. The platform must provide a secure, institutionally governed AI environment; support student learning and staff productivity; reduce institutional risk; and enable scalable, compliant AI use across the university. Full details are available in the documentation. Due to the academic timetable, there are limited opportunities in the year to implement with a target date of approximately April 2026.

Contract 1. AI platform for use by Staff and Students at The University Of Kent

Supplier

- OPENAI UK LTD

Contract value

- £3,257,010 excluding VAT
- £3,908,412 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Award decision date

10 February 2026

Date assessment summaries were sent to tenderers

10 February 2026

Standstill period

- End: 19 February 2026
- 8 working days

Earliest date the contract will be signed

20 February 2026

Contract dates (estimated)

- 20 February 2026 to 30 April 2028
- Possible extension to 30 April 2031
- 5 years, 2 months, 9 days

Description of possible extension:

3 x 12 month extensions subject to performance and budget approval up to a maximum of 5 years, 2 months and 20 days.

Main procurement category

Services

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

Additional capability and capacity is anticipated, however currently cannot be predicted due to the fast speed of development of new functionality in the AI Sector.

CPV classifications

- 48000000 - Software package and information systems
- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

Contract locations

- UKC - North East (England)
- UKD - North West (England)
- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber
- UKF - East Midlands (England)
- UKG - West Midlands (England)
- UKH - East of England
- UKI - London
- UKJ - South East (England)
- UKK - South West (England)

Information about tenders

- 6 tenders received
- 6 tenders assessed in the final stage:
 - 3 submitted by small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
 - 0 submitted by voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)
- 1 supplier awarded contracts
- 5 suppliers unsuccessful (details included for contracts over £5 million)

Submission

Submission type

Requests to participate

Procedure

Procedure type

Competitive flexible procedure

Supplier

OPENAI UK LTD

- Companies House: 14367667
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PWPB-5541-NWZV

Suite 1, 7th Floor 50 Broadway

London

SW1H 0BL

United Kingdom

Email: ar-enterprise@openai.com

Website: <http://www.openai.com>

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Connected people/organisations:

Open AI

1st Floor, The Liffey Trust Centre

117-126 Sheriff Street Upper

Dublin 1, D01 YC43

Ireland

Contract 1. AI platform for use by Staff and Students at The University Of Kent

Contracting authority

The University Of Kent

- UK Register of Learning Providers (UKPRN number): 10007150
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDYN-9654-JPQJ

The Registry,

Canterbury

CT2 7NZ

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@kent.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.kent.ac.uk/>

Region: UKJ44 - East Kent

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government