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Award

Safety Case Author Career Switcher Programme Pilot Scheme

Ministry of Defence

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

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-013054

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-06530b

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Scope

Reference

DNO/488

Description

The training provider will be responsible for the design and delivery of the Safety Case Author training pilot course. The programme will comprise ten modules, each structured to progressively build foundational knowledge, technical competence, and practical application skills relevant to safety case authoring in the UK nuclear sector.

The pilot course will incorporate a blend of classroom-based instruction, formal knowledge testing, and hands-on practical exercises to ensure learners gain both theoretical understanding and applied capability. The course will be specifically tailored for individuals who are new to both the nuclear industry and safety case roles.

To support accessibility across Scotland, the course will be delivered through a hybrid model, combining in-person and virtual learning. The programme should be condensed into a 1–2week format, with flexibility around scheduling to accommodate learner and

organisational needs.

Contract 1. DNO/488- Safety Case Author Career Switcher Programme Pilot Scheme

Supplier

- Ayrshire College

Contract value

- £65,000 excluding VAT
- £78,000 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

13 March 2026

Contract dates (estimated)

- 16 March 2026 to 30 June 2026
- 3 months, 16 days

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80510000 - Specialist training services

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

Prototypes and development

This direct award is justified under Schedule 5, Paragraph 2 of the Procurement Act 2023 as the requirement is for a one-off pilot course undertaken for the purposes of testing, development and evaluation, rather than for routine operational delivery.

The pilot will be used to assess the viability, suitability and effectiveness of the proposed

course content and delivery model, and to inform the design of any future competitive procurement should the approach prove successful.

Previous attempts to competitively source a suitable provider have not yielded an acceptable solution, which further supports the need for a prototype?stage trial before going to market. For these reasons, a direct award is proportionate and meets the criteria for the 'Prototypes and Development' justification under the Procurement Act 2023.

Supplier

Ayrshire College

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDQW-4681-QCWH

18-20 Hill Street , Kilmarnock Campus

Kilmarnock,

KA8 0EU

United Kingdom

Email: engage@ayrshire.ac.uk

Region: UKM94 - South Ayrshire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. DNO/488- Safety Case Author Career Switcher Programme Pilot Scheme

Contracting authority

Ministry of Defence

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHVX-4316-ZVGZ

MOD 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