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Contract

512_25 Utility Metering and Data Services

Leicestershire County Council, trading as ESPO

UK7: Contract details notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-017760

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-050458 ([view related notices](#))

Published 27 February 2026, 10:40am

Scope

Reference

512_25

Description

A framework agreement covering Half Hourly Electricity Meter Operator Services, data collection and data aggregation services.

The framework has been tailored to help customers achieve compliance with the requirements of the upcoming Market-wide Half-Hourly Settlement (MHHS) and is anticipated to be a multi-supplier framework.

Tenderers were required to confirm and evidence their compliance with key industry standards and memberships as a condition for their tender to be evaluated.

Tenderers were required to install meters and offer data collection/data aggregation (DC/DA) services throughout England. While not mandatory, it is preferable for suppliers to also offer coverage in Scotland and Wales.

For any additional details please also refer to the ESPO website as follows:
<https://www.espo.org/utility-metering-data-services-512-25.html>

Note: Overall framework award was concluded on 10/02/2026, with this notice being published to follow on from this.

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Framework

Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers

0%

Further information about fees

As a public body, ESPO has a statutory obligation to recover the costs associated with the management of this Framework Agreement. This obligation is met through the application of a Framework Fee, payable by Suppliers to ESPO. This is applied at a fixed rate (per MPAN per annum).

Framework operation description

Call-offs via the 512_25 Framework will be permitted in the following ways in accordance with section 45 of the Procurement Act 2023 (and any subsequent amendment or re-enactment thereof):

Call-off without competition

'Calling-off' Services from a Supplier identified who is a) included in the Framework; b) suitable for meeting the Customer's specific needs and; c) identified as offering the Most Advantageous Solution to the Customer's requirements, based on source(s) of information for Customers' supplier selection decisions.

Call-off with competition (Further Competitive Selection Process)

'Calling-off' by conducting a further competitive selection process amongst those Suppliers identified in the Framework as being able to provide the required Services. This means that not all competitive selection processes will necessarily include all the Suppliers - a customer will only invite those Suppliers that are included in the Framework for the particular type of contract required. Customers will assess the suppliers as set out in the terms and conditions of the Framework.

When assessing proposals submitted under a further competitive selection process, Customers may include conditions of participation to assess Suppliers' technical ability to perform the contract as part of the competitive selection process as determined according to the Customer's own particular circumstances.

Any assessment of Suppliers' proposals under a further competitive selection process must be based only on some or all of the award criteria that were used to assess tenders when the framework was awarded. Customers may refine these criteria, for example, by including additional sub-criteria or by explaining the criteria further.

Further competitive selection processes may be conducted directly by the Customer, or by ESPO, or by any other appropriate third party on the Customer's behalf. Please note that once this Framework is established, the right is reserved by the Customer when running a further competitive selection process, to invite the Suppliers to participate in an eAuction. Meetings with Suppliers, interviews, presentations and/or site visits may be required as part of the process at further competition stage as determined by the Customer.

All Services provided under the Framework will be provided and delivered directly to the Customers, in accordance with instructions given to the Supplier at the time of placing the order. Liability for payment of the Supplier's invoices will rest solely with the Customer, as appropriate in each case.

ESPO Trading Limited Second Framework:

ESPO has established a commercial trading company, ESPO Trading Limited, whose target clients are third sector organisations such as national and local charities, public sector mutual organisations and other organisations involved in the delivery of services to or for the public sector. The successful Supplier may be asked to enter into an additional separate framework agreement (the Second Framework) with ESPO Trading Limited on

materially similar terms to that found in the tender pack to be entered into by ESPO itself.

Any Second Framework agreement will be a purely commercial agreement and will, for the avoidance of doubt, not be governed by the Procurement Act 2023 or other public procurement legislation. ESPO Trading Limited may enter into the second framework agreement with the successful supplier and make it available to third sector clients who themselves are not required to follow the Procurement Act 2023 or other public procurement legislation. Accordingly, this is provided for tenderers information only.

Award method when using the framework

Either with or without competition

Contracting authorities that may use the framework

As a Centralised procurement authority as defined in the Procurement Act 2023, the Framework is open for use by Public Bodies (defined at <https://www.espo.org/amfile/file/download/file/9608/>) that also fall into one of the following classifications of user throughout all administrative regions of England, Scotland and Wales: Local Authorities; Educational Establishments (including Academies); Central Government Departments and Agencies; Police, Fire & Rescue and Coastguard Emergency Services; NHS Bodies including Ambulance Services; Registered Charities; Registered Social Landlords; The Corporate Office of the House of Lords, The Corporate Officer of the House of Commons; or any public body established by or under the Scotland Act 1998 or any Act of the Scottish Parliament. Details of the classification of end user establishments and geographical areas are available at: <https://www.espo.org/legal>

Contracting authority location restrictions

- UKF - East Midlands (England)
- UKH - East of England
- UKI - London
- UKC - North East (England)

- UKD - North West (England)
 - UKJ - South East (England)
 - UKK - South West (England)
 - UKG - West Midlands (England)
 - UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber
 - UKM - Scotland
 - UKL - Wales
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Contract 1. 512_25 Utility Metering and Data Services

Suppliers (3)

- NPOWER COMMERCIAL GAS LIMITED
- SMS ENERGY SERVICES LIMITED
- STARK SOFTWARE INTERNATIONAL LTD.

Contract value

- £16,666,667 excluding VAT
- £20,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Date signed

10 February 2026

Contract dates

- 10 February 2026 to 9 February 2028
- Possible extension to 9 February 2030
- 4 years

Description of possible extension:

The framework agreement has the option to extend for up to a further 24 months (under normal circumstances this will be completed in full, or potentially in 12-month periods, and is subject to the performance of the framework).

The total estimated framework value captured in this notice includes the option to extend as noted above.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 38551000 - Energy meters
- 38554000 - Electricity meters
- 65300000 - Electricity distribution and related services
- 71314000 - Energy and related services

Contract locations

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- UKG - West Midlands (England)
- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber
- UKL - Wales
- UKM - Scotland

Signed contract documents

[512_25 Framework Agreement \(Utility Metering & Data Services\).pdf](#)

512_25 Framework Agreement (Utility Metering & Data Services)

[512_25 Framework Schedule 3 - Form of Contract and Call-Off Terms \(Utility Metering & Data Services\).pdf](#)

512_25 Framework Schedule 3 - Form of Contract and Call-Off Terms (Utility Metering & Data Services)

Other information

Applicable trade agreements

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Suppliers

NPOWER COMMERCIAL GAS LIMITED

- Companies House: 03768856

Westwood Way, Westwood Business Park

Coventry

CV4 8LG

United Kingdom

Email: bidmanagement@npower.com

Region: UKG33 - Coventry

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

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SMS ENERGY SERVICES LIMITED

- Companies House: 03197379

Prennau House Copse Walk, Cardiff Gate Business Park, Pontprennau

Cardiff

CF23 8XH

United Kingdom

Email: commerciales@sms-plc.com

Region: UKL22 - Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

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STARK SOFTWARE INTERNATIONAL LTD.

- Companies House: 02911704

Sentinel House, 10-12 Massetts Road

Horley

RH6 7DE

United Kingdom

Email: tenders@stark.co.uk

Region: UKJ26 - East Surrey

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

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Contracting authority

Leicestershire County Council, trading as ESPO

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PYDD-1122-TCVN

Barnsdale Way, Grove Park, Enderby

Leicester

LE19 1ES

United Kingdom

Contact name: Energy Procurement Team

Email: tenders@espo.org

Website: <https://www.espo.org/>

Region: UKF22 - Leicestershire CC and Rutland

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government