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Award

DSIT NMS - NPL Advanced Manufacturing and Materials

Department for Science, Innovation & Technology

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-020374

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05109e ([view related notices](#))

Published 12 May 2025, 11:25am

Scope

Reference

prj_5125

Description

This notice is to inform the market that a number of contract awards will be made in relation to the National Measurement System (NMS). The NMS is the system of laboratories and capabilities that underpin the UK's metrology. The NMS provides the UK with an infrastructure of laboratories that deliver world-class measurement science and technology and provide traceable and increasingly accurate standards of measurement. The National Physical Laboratory (NPL) and the National Engineering Laboratory (NEL) develop and maintain measurement standards that support high-precision manufacturing processes. This ensures that UK manufacturers can produce high-quality products that meet international standards.

The NMS labs support the digital economy by developing measurement techniques for emerging technologies such as quantum computing, artificial intelligence, and the Internet of Things (IoT), helping the UK stay at the forefront of technological innovation.

Metrology labs contribute to environmental sustainability by providing accurate measurements for monitoring air and water quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and energy efficiency. This supports the UK's efforts to transition to clean energy sources and mitigate climate change.

The National Measurement Laboratory (NML) at LGC and other labs ensure the accuracy of measurements in healthcare, such as those used in medical diagnostics and pharmaceuticals. This helps improve public health outcomes and supports the development of new medical technologies.

The NMS enhances national security by developing measurement standards for critical infrastructure, cybersecurity, and emergency response. This ensures that the UK can effectively respond to and recover from various threats. The extensive scientific and technical infrastructure, expertise, and resources necessary to provide these services mean that there is an absence of competition from other providers. These contracts are therefore awarded directly.

Contract 1. DSIT NMS - NPL Advanced Manufacturing and Materials

Supplier

- [National Physical Laboratory](#)

Contract value

- £19,060,000 excluding VAT
- £19,060,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

30 May 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 2 June 2025 to 31 March 2026
- 9 months, 29 days

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 71900000 - Laboratory services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Other information

Description of risks to contract performance

The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason: absence of competition for technical reasons. This notice is to inform the market that a number of contract awards will be made in relation to the National Measurement System (NMS). The NMS is the system of laboratories and capabilities that underpin the UK's metrology. The NMS provides the UK with an infrastructure of

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Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

- Prototypes and development
- Single supplier - intellectual property or exclusive rights
- Single supplier - technical reasons

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Supplier

National Physical Laboratory

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PYDB-8862-JBYM

Hampton Road Teddington

Middlesex

TW11 0LW

United Kingdom

Email: peter.thompson@npl.co.uk

Website: <https://www.npl.co.uk>

Region: UKI75 - Hounslow and Richmond upon Thames

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. DSIT NMS - NPL Advanced Manufacturing and Materials

Contracting authority

Department for Science, Innovation & Technology

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVWZ-3216-PVQL

22 Whitehall

London

SW1A 2EG

United Kingdom

Email: commercialexcellence@ics.gov.uk

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Organisation type: Public authority - central government