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Planning

714155450 - Personal Hard Armour Framework

Defence Equipment and Support

UK2: Preliminary market engagement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-041074

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04f88f ([view related notices](#))

Published 17 July 2025, 4:09pm

Changes to notice

This notice has been edited. The [previous version](#) is still available.

The Market engagement day has now been cancelled

'Open Framework' has been removed from the scope and replaced with 'Defence and Security Framework'

Scope

Reference

714155450 - Personal Hard Armour Framework

Description

The UK Ministry of Defence is establishing a Framework for the procurement of Personal Hard Armour to support its Armed Forces Personnel. The Personal Hard Armour Framework will facilitate the procurement of personal ballistic protection through the pre-approval of suppliers and will deliver agility, consistency, and financial savings in the procurement of personal hard armour - whilst encouraging innovation and optimising organisational outputs.

Defence requires the ability to procure personal hard armour in low and high quantities, with the agility to meet emerging demands.

Potential future requirements and technologies that may utilise the Framework are as below:

- a. Osprey Replacement.
- b. Reduced threat plates.
- c. Buoyant plates.
- d. Non-standard shaped plates (complex curvature).
- e. Covert plates.

The Authority therefore intends to establish a non-committal Defence and Security Framework.

Please note that the publication date of the UK 4 Tender Notice and Contract start date are an estimate and is still subject to change.

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Total value (estimated)

- £208,333,333.33 excluding VAT
- £250,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 3 February 2026 to 2 February 2034
- 8 years

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 35812300 - Combat gear
- 44431000 - Cover plates
- 18143000 - Protective gear
- 35815100 - Bullet-proof vests

Engagement

Engagement deadline

17 July 2025

Engagement process description

Previous engagement:

Market engagement has been conducted during the DE&S wide SME engagement day held at Abbey Wood on 20th March 2024. Further engagement has taken place through events such as DSEI 2023, DVD 2024, visiting various stands throughout the events. Project and Commercial leads used these as an opportunity to promote the Framework and advised on signing up to the Defence Sourcing Portal.

AUSA Washington USA – 14-16 October 24

Enforcetac – Germany - 24-26 February 25

Members of the project team attended AUSA and Enforcetac on the above dates to promote the Personal Hard Armour Framework to suppliers in the hard armour market. A key objective of setting up and promoting the framework is to broaden and strengthen our supply base for Personal Hard Armour, giving the UK MOD the potential to surge and meet evolving demands, as well as further building our understanding of the wider market. Through attending these key exhibitions the team were able to gain knowledge of suppliers, products, and new technologies on offer. The team visited a number of stands that were recorded as suppliers of ballistic plates or were showcasing ballistic plates and discussed with them the UK MODs intent on setting up a Framework to be the main commercial route for all the Authority's hard armour requirements. Information was provided on how to sign up to the Defence Sourcing Portal, estimated timelines for the framework, as well as information on the type of requirements that could be going through the Framework.

Upcoming engagement:

The market engagement day that was previously intended to be run has now been cancelled

Please note, the release of this UK 2 Preliminary Market engagement Notice is not the formal start to the competition process. You will have an opportunity to participate in the Tender process when it formally starts with the release of the UK 4 Tender Notice, which will be advertised via the Defence Sourcing Portal and Find a Tender Service via the Central Digital Platform in the future. At this stage suppliers are only able to register interest for the market engagement day coming up.

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

25 September 2025

Procedure

Special regime

Defence and security

Contracting authority

Defence Equipment and Support

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVRL-5831-GLMM

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

Organisation type: Public authority - central government