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Planning

## **SEN Unit and Resourced Provision Guidance**

Department for Education

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-041694

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-056313

Published 21 July 2025, 2:56pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Department for Education

Sanctuary Buildings, 20, Great Smith Street

London

SW1P 3BT

#### **Contact**

Core Procurement Team

#### **Email**

[core.procurement@education.gov.uk](mailto:core.procurement@education.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

**National registration number**

00000000

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/about/procurement>

**I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

**I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Education

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**Section II: Object**

**II.1) Scope of the procurement**

**II.1.1) Title**

SEN Unit and Resourced Provision Guidance

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 80000000 - Education and training services

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

## Services

### II.1.4) Short description

The purpose of this early engagement notice is to notify the market of a forthcoming market engagement event relating to a potential procurement of an experienced Delivery Partner (DP) to develop best practice guidance, in partnership with DfE, to operate (and set up) SEN units, resourced provision, and pupil support units within mainstream schools. The guidance will be DfE guidance hosted on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk). The department will be undertaking an online event on 24th July 2025 for interested suppliers.

The Delivery Partner must:

1. Have access to lead practitioners with an excellent understanding and proven track record of setting up and operating SEN units, resourced provision, and pupil support units (sometimes referred to as Internal AP) (collectively hereafter referred to as 'bases').
2. Understand the needs of mainstream schools and local authorities, so that the guidance helps senior leaders and staff to deliver high quality practice.
3. Have a track record of producing high quality and impactful sector facing resources, including guidance.
4. Have experienced facilitators able to engage and coordinate a wide range of stakeholders.
5. Have capacity to arrange and deliver facilitated working group sessions, work in partnership with the Department for Education (DfE) to develop interim and final guidance, over a 6 month period.

A delivery partner will be selected via ECSC Dynamic Procurement System. Registration details can be found here:

[https://educationgovuk.sharepoint.com/sites/SURPGuidanceProcurement/\\_layouts/15/download.aspx?SourceUrl=%2Fsites%2FSURPGuidanceProcurement%2FShared%20Documents%2FDPS%20Guidance%2FNew%20%2D%201303%20%2D%20JAGGAER%20DPS%20Supplier%20Registration%20Guidance%20%28December%202020%29%20%281%29%2Epdf](https://educationgovuk.sharepoint.com/sites/SURPGuidanceProcurement/_layouts/15/download.aspx?SourceUrl=%2Fsites%2FSURPGuidanceProcurement%2FShared%20Documents%2FDPS%20Guidance%2FNew%20%2D%201303%20%2D%20JAGGAER%20DPS%20Supplier%20Registration%20Guidance%20%28December%202020%29%20%281%29%2Epdf)

The Department will be undertaking a market engagement webinar event on the 24th July at 14:00. We would like to invite you to the webinar, where we will provide further detail on the requirement and an opportunity to ask questions. It is anticipated that the event will last 45 minutes. The objectives of the event will be to:

- Give you an understanding of the aim of the potential procurement.
- Give you the opportunity to provide feedback.

Please note that a maximum of two people from each organisation can attend the event. You do not need to have completed DPS registration to attend the event, but you must be registered on the DPS to submit a bid.

We may record all questions asked, as well as answers given, and make these publicly available as reference for all interested parties.

If the procurement exercise goes ahead, it is expected to open in August 2025 for a window of around 14 days. More information on the potential procurement process will be provided following this market engagement activity.

This notice is for information only and is not a call for competition. The Department reserves the right not to enter a formal procurement process and not award contracts. Accordingly, the Authority will not be liable for any bid cost, expenditure, work or effort incurred by a provider in acting on the basis of this PIN. All future information will be issued to potential providers via the DfE eTendering Portal.

Kind regards

DfE

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £140,000

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 800000000 - Education and training services

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- 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)

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The Delivery Partner (DP) will be expected to develop best practice guidance in partnership with DfE, to operate and set up SEN units, resourced provision, and pupil support units within mainstream schools. The DfE team will support the DP to deliver these workstreams.

This programme of work aims to:

1. Use lead practitioners to establish best practice guidance for operating and setting up bases, seeking ideas/input from a wide range of practitioners.
2. Engage a wide range of stakeholders in the development of the guidance and build consensus.
3. Produce high-quality guidance, in collaboration with DfE, that will support schools and LAs to develop high-quality provision.

#### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

21 July 2025

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

Please contact [core.procurement@education.gov.uk](mailto:core.procurement@education.gov.uk) for details of the market engagement event.