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Planning

AI³ Delivery Partners Project

Department for Business & Trade

UK3: Planned procurement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-049565

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0589f1 ([view related notices](#))

Published 18 August 2025, 3:21pm

Scope

Description

The DBT Digital, Data and Technology team leads on development of AI tools and services within the department.

This is done through our 'AI Cubed' model, which aims to identify, test, develop and evaluate use cases for applying artificial intelligence within the department.

We are seeking to procure specialist expertise to support delivery of this model. We expect this to take the form of suitably skilled teams and individuals joining relevant AI Cubed teams and projects within the AI Lab, AI Factory or AI Operations.

Total value (estimated)

- £9,000,000 excluding VAT
- £10,800,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 June 2026 to 31 May 2028
- Possible extension to 30 May 2029
- 2 years, 11 months, 30 days

Description of possible extension:

If required by DBT's DDaT team.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 72220000 - Systems and technical consultancy services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Lot constraints

Maximum number of lots a supplier can bid for: 1

Maximum number of lots a supplier can be awarded: 1

Lot 1. AI Lab

Description

This is a place for rapid, time-limited exploration and assessment of AI use cases

Lot value (estimated)

- £3,000,000 excluding VAT
- £3,600,000 including VAT

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot 2. AI Factory

Description

This is where AI Lab proofs of concept are developed into real, production tools and components

Lot value (estimated)

- £3,000,000 excluding VAT
- £3,600,000 including VAT

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot 3. AI Operations

Description

This is where AI tools and components are operated, maintained and scaled

Lot value (estimated)

- £3,000,000 excluding VAT
- £3,600,000 including VAT

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

9 October 2025

Submission type

Requests to participate

Deadline for requests to participate

3 November 2025, 11:59pm

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

1 June 2026

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type
Phase 1 - Participation Stage	Questions TBC. Financial tests and technical ability criteria to be assessed.	Quality
Phase 2 - Weighted VfM	Questions and weightings TBC. Quality will be the detailed look towards the requirement as well as the overall project delivery and contract management approaches, questions on how the company delivers projects.	Quality
Phase 2 - Weighted VfM	Rate Cards to be assessed.	Price

Name	Description	Type
Phase 3 - PQP+	Scenario based questions will be assessed here. Price score will be assessed based on submission of rate card in Phase 2.	Quality

Weighting description

TBC

Procedure

Procedure type

Competitive flexible procedure

Reduced tendering period

Yes

Qualifying planned procurement notice - minimum 10 days

Contracting authority

Department for Business & Trade

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PZZJ-6312-QTTD

Old Admiralty Building

London

SW1A 2DY

United Kingdom

Email: commercialddat@businessandtrade.gov.uk

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Organisation type: Public authority - central government