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Contract

Refurbishment of the Dining Area at NOC Liverpool (Furniture)

National Oceanography Centre

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-052760

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-059135

Published 1 September 2025, 12:03pm

Scope

Reference

NOCP00611

Description

The National Oceanography Centre (NOC) As part of the ongoing refurbishment of the Dining Area at the Liverpool Site, we are proposing a full upgrade of the existing furniture and tables.

This initiative is driven by the need to create a more professional, functional, and future-ready environment for both staff and visitors.

The current layout and furnishings no longer meet the evolving needs of our workforce, particularly in terms of space efficiency, comfort, and capacity.

All staff have been communicated to and engaged across this process to have their say before delivery.

Background:

The current space was created from day 1, and the internal furniture has not been updated since its inception. The furniture is now visibly outdated, no longer aligns with the professional image NOC wishes to project and fails to meet updated ergonomic and regulatory requirements, as well as increased usage needs.

Rationale for Single Supplier Selection:

To fulfill the furniture requirements for this project, NOC proposes employing A&A Business Supplies (A&A), a local company based within two miles of the Southampton site. The rationale for selecting A&A as a single supplier is outlined below:

1. Range and Flexibility:

A&A is an independent company with access to a broad range of furniture suppliers, offering extensive styles, colours, and configurations. This flexibility ensures that NOC's diverse

furniture requirements can be met effectively and efficiently.

2. Standardisation:

The NOC Estate Transformation project aims to establish a standardised selection of furniture across all areas of the site. Working with a single supplier like A&A ensures consistency,

enhancing the professional aesthetic and functional alignment throughout the organization.

3. Cost-Effectiveness:

A&A offers solutions that eliminate storage fees, mitigating risks associated with supply chain delays. A cost comparison conducted over the past year between A&A and a nominated

framework supplier, revealed that A&A provides comparable furniture at a lower overall cost.

4. Proven Track Record:

Over the past four years, A&A has consistently delivered excellent service to NOC, demonstrating flexibility in delivery dates and storage, and providing a responsive and reliable after-sales service. Their average response time for addressing issues is within 24

hours.

5. Sustainability and Social Responsibility:

A&A aligns with NOC's Sustainability and Social Responsibility Strategy by offering a lower carbon footprint due to their locality and a furniture recycling scheme. This initiative allows old or broken furniture to be dismantled into component parts and recycled, with certification provided for the carbon saved.

6. Quality and Compliance:

A&A holds ISO 9001 (Quality Management) and ISO 14001 (Environmental Management) certifications, ensuring their adherence to high-quality standards and environmental responsibility.

Market Analysis:

A cost comparison conducted over the past year between A&A and a nominated framework supplier, demonstrated A&A's cost competitiveness. The analysis confirms that A&A offers comparable furniture at a lower overall cost.

Contract 1. Refurbishment of the Dining Area at NOC Liverpool (Furniture)

Supplier

- A&A Business Supplies

Contract value

- £35,232.91 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

Date signed

29 August 2025

Contract dates

- 29 August 2025 to 30 September 2025
- 1 month, 3 days

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 39143200 - Dining-room furniture

Contract locations

- UKD7 - Merseyside

Procedure

Procedure type

Below threshold - without competition

Supplier

A&A Business Supplies

Unit 21, City Industrial Park, Southern Road

Southampton

SO15 1HG

United Kingdom

Email: sales@aa-business.co.uk

Website: <https://www.aa-business.co.uk/>

Region: UKJ32 - Southampton

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. Refurbishment of the Dining Area at NOC Liverpool (Furniture)

Contracting authority

National Oceanography Centre

- Companies House: 11444362

- Charity Commission (England and Wales): 1185265
- Scottish Charity Register: SC049896
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PYLV-3456-PMCQ

National Oceanography Centre

Southampton

SO14 3ZH

United Kingdom

Email: noc_tenders@noc.ac.uk

Region: UKJ32 - Southampton

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government