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Planning

DLEARN-Provision of Standardised Assessment & Reporting Platform & Related Services

Scottish Government

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-056050

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05991d

Published 12 September 2025, 10:02am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Scottish Government

5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw

Glasgow

G2 8LU

Email

caitlin.fullarton@gov.scot

Telephone

+44 412425466

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM - Scotland

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA10482

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

National or federal Agency/Office

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

DLEARN-Provision of Standardised Assessment & Reporting Platform & Related Services

Reference number

788772

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80000000 - Education and training services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The Scottish Government intends to contract for the ongoing provision of national, online standardised assessments aimed at providing evidence of children's progress in aspects of literacy and numeracy.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £17,500,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 72222300 - Information technology services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM - Scotland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Scottish Government intends to contract for the ongoing provision of national, online standardised assessments aimed at providing evidence of children's progress in aspects of literacy and numeracy. The contract will be designed to implement the third phase of the National Standardised Assessments for Scotland (NSA) project, which were introduced as part of the implementation of the National Improvement Framework for Scottish Education. The supplier will be required to provide a dual-language platform for the continuation of the online adaptive assessment service which has been made available to children in publicly funded education in Scotland since August 2017.

The Scottish Government is also exploring whether this procurement provides the opportunity to bring elements of the assessment service in-house. This includes training design and delivery, content development, and service desk provision. A key aspect of development will include the migration of data from the current phase of the project, both in terms of assessment data, and assessment content, to ensure continuity of service and secure the long-term value of existing data and content.

Assessments are aligned to Curriculum for Excellence and are undertaken by children and young people in P1, 4, 7 and S3. Development will take place during the 2026/27 school year with the assessments anticipated to come online from August 2027. Standardised assessments support the wider approach to assessment through the broad general education in Scotland, which is based primarily upon the professional judgement of teachers. The contract will be for the design and delivery of diagnostic, inclusive and online adaptive national standardised assessments, suitable for the Scottish school education system and capable of reporting progress in skills for reading, writing and numeracy, both in English and Gaelic.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

19 January 2026

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

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The Scottish Government does not require any formal submission at this stage. This notice is to advise potential tenderers that the Scottish Government will host a Supplier Briefing Day on Monday 20 October 2025. The Briefing Day will be held via Microsoft Teams.

The purpose of the meeting will be to outline our requirement and procurement timetable to potential tenderers and exchange information about expectations and market capability. Learning from the meeting may help to shape our requirement prior to the start of the formal advertising and competitive tendering process.

The meeting will be held on a "without commitment" basis and will have no bearing on supplier evaluation or selection. Attendance (or non-attendance) will not affect your involvement in the later tendering process.

Anyone interested in attending this meeting should register their interest no later than Tuesday 14 October 2025.

A Questionnaire has been included with this PIN which contains a number of pertinent questions to help understand the market capacity for this requirement. Please note it is not a pre-requisite to attending the Briefing Day that this is completed however any feedback would be gratefully received. Any information received will not be used to form judgements regarding supplier performance, capacity or capability under any current or future procurement process. Suppliers will not be disadvantaged by declining to submit a response to the questionnaire.

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the Public Contracts Scotland Web Site at

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=802966.

(SC Ref:802966)