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Planning

UKRI-5244 Next National Supercomputing Service

UK Research and Innovation

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-062921

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05a9ab

Published 7 October 2025, 2:51pm

Scope

Reference

UKRI-5244

Description

The purpose of this Preliminary Market Engagement Notice is to inform the market that UKRI will soon be tendering the Supercomputing hardware for the Next National Supercomputing Service based at the University of Edinburgh and to also arrange pre-market engagement meetings with vendors attending SC25.

The UK Compute Roadmap (July 2025) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-compute-roadmap/uk-compute-roadmap> sets out the vision for "a world-class compute ecosystem that provides a platform for innovation, growth and opportunity across the economy." This includes the investment of "up to £750 million for a new national supercomputer service in Edinburgh" as announced by government at the June 2025 spending review. The Next National Supercomputing Service (NNSS) will provide a compute infrastructure for the UK's research and innovation communities to utilise cutting-edge modelling, simulation and AI workflows: a key component of the UK government's

ambition. The current estimated budget for the Supercomputing System is in the range of £300m - £330m(including VAT).

The supercomputer will be an owned asset of UKRI with the hosting service provision responsibilities undertaken by Edinburgh Parallel Computing Centre (wholly owned by Edinburgh University).

The applicability of the Social Value Act (SVA), tackling wider social, economic, and environmental benefits is considered for procurements, and as such, vendors will be expected to comply with UKRI's Responsible Procurement Charter (<https://www.ukri.org/publications/responsible-procurement-charter/>).

UKRI intends to conduct pre-market engagement events during November 2025.

UKRI's market engagement plan will comprise of the following steps, which are intending to run sequentially with vendors participating in each step as applicable:

Step 1 - Respond to this Notice

UKRI would like to hear from the following vendors:

- Large scale supercomputer manufacturers
- High performance storage providers
- Supercomputer CPU and GPU manufacturers

Please email supercomputer@ukri.org to express an interest in this requirement.

Step 2 - Arranging meetings at SC25 and the Market Engagement Questionnaire

UKRI will arrange meetings at SC25 with relevant suppliers and we will also issue a market engagement questionnaire to these suppliers w/c 20th October 2025.

Step 3 - In-Person Engagement (SC25 Nov 16-21, 2025 - St Louis)

UKRI wishes to arrange face to face pre-market engagement meetings with vendors that are in attendance at SC25 during Nov 17-20, 2025 at St. Louis. UKRI, DSIT and the Supercomputer Procurement Group members will be present at the meetings. Please email to supercomputer@ukri.org using the following title 'UKRI-5244 - SC25 In-person Engagement' to register your interest and provide available meeting options between the 17th -19th November. The duration of these meetings would be up to 2 hours at UKRI's discretion.

Please note that the date relating to the publication of the contract notice is tentative and is subject to approval of the Business Case by the relevant UK Government departments (including Department for Science Innovation and Technology and HM Treasury) All future tender documentation will be made available via UKRI's e-sourcing portal and potential bidders should register on this portal to ensure they have access to all tender documentation when the tender is published.

Total value (estimated)

- £275,000,000 excluding VAT
- £330,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 September 2026 to 31 August 2031
- Possible extension to 31 August 2033
- 7 years

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 30211100 - Super computer

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Engagement

Engagement deadline

30 November 2025

Engagement process description

Please see the section "Procurement description" for the full details on engagement.

UKRI will be meeting with vendors at SC25 in St. Louis.

In order to book a slot with UKRI, you will need to express an interest in reply to this notice.

Expressions of interest must be sent to supercomputer@ukri.org

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

4 February 2026

Contracting authority

UK Research and Innovation

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDQJ-7126-JDHG

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Swindon

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United Kingdom

Email: commercial@ukri.org

Region: UKK14 - Swindon

Organisation type: Public authority - central government