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Tender

Extending High Speed Broadband Framework Agreement

Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

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Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0507e1 ([view related notices](#))

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Scope

Reference

C118/2024/2025

Description

Procurement

The Welsh Government (the "Authority") is conducting a procurement to establish an open framework (the "Framework") to deliver the Extending High Speed Broadband ("EHSB") project.

Once the Framework is established, the Authority intends to award a series of call-off contracts (following individual competitive selection processes), that will provide grant funding to telecoms suppliers to cover the "gap" in costs that are required to deliver superfast connections to communities / premises in Wales that would not otherwise be served by commercial operators under normal market conditions, due to the high infrastructure cost of building connections to those "hard to reach" communities / premises.

Grants made under the call-off contracts are out of scope for the purposes of VAT.

Coverage

The Authority's 2022 open market review identified that around 84,000 premises within Wales did not have access to superfast download speeds (at least 30Mbps) exacerbating the digital divide. Ofcom has previously stated that a subset of these (around 10,000 premises) do not yet have access to at least 10Mbps.

Despite the efforts of the telecommunications industry and public sector interventions, there are still premises in Wales that do not have access to at least superfast broadband speeds. The Authority has therefore developed the EHSB project to address this gap and provide fast and reliable broadband to those premises.

Whilst the Authority is confident that the number of premises without superfast download speeds has drastically reduced since the 2022 open market review (as the scope of commercial and other public sector deployments, including Project Gigabit, have become clearer), the Authority anticipates that the number of premises that are currently in scope of the Framework is in the region of 29,000 premises.

The current, indicative list of eligible premises that are anticipated to be in scope for the Framework will be subject to refinement/update during the duration of the Framework (for example, to reflect any premises which may be addressed by other interventions). The premises that are in-scope for each call-off contract will be confirmed in the relevant request for proposals issued under the Framework.

Additional Information

The Authority expects the Framework will have two lots. The first lot will be for projects that require the installation of broadband network infrastructure to 1,000 premises and over. The second lot will be for projects that require the installation of broadband network infrastructure to under 1,000 premises. Suppliers are permitted to apply for either or both lots.

The Authority expects the first Framework will commence early 2026 with the first call-off contract under the Framework being awarded shortly thereafter.

The estimated total value set out in this notice is in respect of all call-off contracts that may be awarded under the Framework. At this stage, it is an estimate only and is in no way guaranteed or final. The associated tender documents for this opportunity contain more specific information.

The dates and total duration for the Framework and any call-off contracts referred to in this notice are also estimates and for illustrative purposes only.

Commercial tool

Establishes an open framework

A series of frameworks with substantially the same terms. Awarded suppliers are carried over and new suppliers can bid.

Total value (estimated)

- £70,000,000 excluding VAT
- £70,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 February 2026 to 30 January 2034
- 7 years, 11 months, 30 days

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 32000000 - Radio, television, communication, telecommunication and related equipment
- 51000000 - Installation services (except software)
- 64000000 - Postal and telecommunications services

Contract locations

- UKL - Wales

Not the same for all lots

Options are shown in Lot sections, because they are not the same for all lots.

Lot 1. Installation of broadband network infrastructure to 1,000 premises and over

Description

Lot 1 will be for projects that require the installation of broadband network infrastructure to 1,000 premises and over

Lot value (estimated)

- £60,000,000 excluding VAT
- £60,000,000 including VAT

Framework lot values may be shared with other lots

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

The indicative term of each framework within the Open Framework will be as follows:

- Framework one - two years (with an option to extend Framework one by up to one year);
- Framework two - three years (with an option to extend Framework two by up to one year); and
- Framework three - three years (subject to any optional extensions that the Authority may implement for Framework one or Framework two).

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. Installation of broadband network infrastructure to under 1,000 premises

Description

Lot 2 - will be for projects that require the installation of broadband network infrastructure to under 1,000 premises.

Lot value (estimated)

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

Framework lot values may be shared with other lots

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

The indicative term of each framework within the Open Framework will be as follows:

- Framework one - two years (with an option to extend Framework one by up to one year);
- Framework two - three years (with an option to extend Framework two by up to one year); and
- Framework three - three years (subject to any optional extensions that the Authority may implement for Framework one or Framework two).

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.

Framework

Open framework scheme end date (estimated)

31 January 2034

Maximum number of suppliers

Unlimited

Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers

0%

Framework operation description

Please refer to the Invitation to Participate for further details.

Award method when using the framework

With competition

Contracting authorities that may use the framework

Establishing party only

Participation

Legal and financial capacity conditions of participation

Lot 1. Installation of broadband network infrastructure to 1,000 premises and over

Lot 2. Installation of broadband network infrastructure to under 1,000 premises

Please refer to the Invitation to Participate for further details.

Technical ability conditions of participation

Lot 1. Installation of broadband network infrastructure to 1,000 premises and over

Lot 2. Installation of broadband network infrastructure to under 1,000 premises

Please refer to the Invitation to Participate for further details.

Particular suitability

Lot 2. Installation of broadband network infrastructure to under 1,000 premises

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

5 November 2025, 12:00pm

Tender submission deadline

26 November 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

This procurement process is being conducted electronically on the e-tendering portal eTenderwales ("Portal"). The Portal can be accessed via the following link:

<https://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk/home.html>

The first person from your organisation to use the Portal will be required to register on behalf of your organisation ("Organisation").

Registration involves accepting a User Agreement, and providing basic information about your Organisation and about the user ("User") performing the registration ("Registration").

The User who performs the Registration becomes the "Super User" for the Organisation.

On registering on the Portal the Super User will be required to select a username and will receive a password.

The password will be sent by e-mail to the email address that was specified in the User Details section of the Registration page.

In order to log in to the Portal please you will need to enter your username and password.

Note: If you forget your password then please visit the homepage and click "Forgot your password?"

Registration should only be performed once for each Organisation.

If you think that someone in your Organisation may have already registered on the Portal then you must not register again.

Please contact the person who Registered (i.e. the Super User) in order to arrange access to the Portal.

Contact the Helpdesk via the Portal immediately if you are unable to contact the Super User (for example if they have left your Organisation).

Note: If your Organisation is already registered on the Portal then you must not make any additional registration. Please contact the Helpdesk to gain access to the Portal.

How to locate the Invitation to Participate in the Framework ("ITP") on the Portal:

Once logged in you must click on "ITP's Open to all Suppliers"

The etender references for this procurement are:

Project 59871. The Qualification envelope for both lots can be found under ITT 118529. The Technical and Commercial envelopes for Lot 1 can be found under ITT 118526. The Technical and Commercial envelopes for Lot 2 can be found under ITT 118527.

Click on the title to access summary details of the contract. If you are still interested in submitting a tender, click the "Express an Interest button". This will move the ITP from the "Open to all Suppliers" area to the "My ITP's" on the home page.

You will then see the full details of the ITP in the qualification, technical and commercial envelopes along with any relevant documents in the "Attachments" area.

Should you have any questions in relation to the ITP, please use the "Messages" area within the Portal to contact the Authority directly - Please do not contact the named person set out in this notice.

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

- Welsh
- English

Award decision date (estimated)

20 January 2026

Recurring procurement

Publication date of next tender notice (estimated): 1 February 2028

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Technical - Quality	Please refer to the Invitation to Participate for further details.	Quality	50.00%
Commercial	Please refer to the Invitation to Participate for further details.	Cost	40.00%
Technical - Social Value/Sustainability	Please refer to the Invitation to Participate for further details.	Quality	10.00%

Other information

Applicable trade agreements

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Contracting authority

Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PQYQ-3841-BHTP

Seilwaith Digidol / Digital Infrastructure

Cardiff

CF10 3NQ

United Kingdom

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Region: UKL22 - Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan

Organisation type: Public authority - central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Wales