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Award

Water Coolers and Associated Items

the Education Authority

UK6: Contract award notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-071730

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04fdaa ([view related notices](#))

Published 6 November 2025, 3:30pm

Scope

Reference

CAT-25-008

Description

CAT-25-008 Water Coolers and Associated Items

The Contract is divided into two Lots as follows:

- Lot 1 Bottle Fed Water Coolers and Associated Items and;
- Lot 2 Mains Fed Water Coolers and Associated Items.

This Contract is established by the Education Authority ("EA") and is open to the EA, including NI educational bodies as follows, who at some point, during the life of the Contract may wish to utilise the agreement and should have access at any point, with the permission of EA. This Contract is not intended to replace any current agreements that participating or non-participating institutions may already have in place.

Department of Education - Schools Plus Primary and Post Primary schools under the control of the EA,

Catholic Maintained Schools,

Independent Schools in NI,

Irish Medium Schools in NI,

both Controlled and Voluntary Grammar Schools,

Nursery School for NI (both controlled, and Catholic Maintained), school meals kitchens on-site at all of these schools,

and Controlled Youth Centres.

NICIE - School Finder

Grant Controlled Integrated Education Schools in NI

Independent Schools in NI

Independent School in NI

EA Teachers' and Educational Centres

Council for the Curriculum, Examination and Assessment NI (CCEA)

Controlled Schools Support Council (CSSC)

Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education (NICIE)

Pre-Schools and Nurseries included in the Pre-School Education Programme (PSEP)

Due to the independent nature of the Schools within Northern Ireland there is no obligation for all schools to become party to the Contract if a value for money solution can be achieved through another Contract or arrangement.

The EA reserves the right to move value between Lots as required, however, the overarching value will not exceed £330,000 (ex VAT) without modification in accordance with the requirements of the Procurement Act 2023.

Furthermore, suppliers should note that, in accordance with Section 31 and /or Section 74 of the Procurement Act 2023, the Buyer reserves the right to modify the Contract without

a new procurement process in certain circumstances. In particular, but without limiting the foregoing, Suppliers should note that the true value of the Contract may differ from the values outlined above for the following reasons:

- Increase/decrease in the number of schools and number of pupils.
 - Increase/decrease in the demand to use the Contract
 - General increases/decreases in all costs such as equipment, insurances, labour rates etc.
 - Unforeseen/unplanned events (for e.g., new schools which are an amalgamation of existing schools that were previously identified by EA as being eligible to utilise this Contract).
 - Increase/decrease in EA funding.
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Lot 1. Lot 1 - Bottle Fed Water Coolers and Associated Items

Description

Lot 1 is for the supply and delivery of Bottle Fed Water Coolers and Associated Items.

Lot 2. Lot 2 - Mains Fed Water Coolers and Associated Items

Description

Lot 2 is for the supply and delivery of Mains Fed Water Coolers and Associated Items

Contract 1. Lot 1 - Bottle Fed Water Coolers and Associated Items

Lots

Lot 1. Lot 1 - Bottle Fed Water Coolers and Associated Items

Supplier

- Culligan Water (Ireland) Ltd

Contract value

- £290,000 excluding VAT
- £348,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Award decision date

31 October 2025

Date assessment summaries were sent to tenderers

6 November 2025

Standstill period

- End: 17 November 2025
- 8 working days

Earliest date the contract will be signed

18 November 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 January 2026 to 30 December 2030
- 4 years, 11 months, 30 days

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 15981000 - Mineral water
- 31141000 - Water coolers
- 41110000 - Drinking water

Contract locations

- UKN - Northern Ireland
-

Contract 2. Lot 2 - Mains Fed Water Coolers and Associated Items

Lots

Lot 2. Lot 2 - Mains Fed Water Coolers and Associated Items

Supplier

- IRISH FOOD & BEVERAGES LTD

Contract value

- £40,000 excluding VAT
- £48,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Award decision date

31 October 2025

Date assessment summaries were sent to tenderers

6 November 2025

Standstill period

- End: 17 November 2025
- 8 working days

Earliest date the contract will be signed

18 November 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

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Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 15981000 - Mineral water
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Contract locations

- UKN - Northern Ireland

Information about tenders

Lot 1. Lot 1 - Bottle Fed Water Coolers and Associated Items

- 3 tenders received

- 2 tenders assessed in the final stage:
 - 2 submitted by small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
 - 0 submitted by voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)
 - 1 supplier awarded contracts
 - 1 supplier unsuccessful (details included for contracts over £5 million)
-

Lot 2. Lot 2 - Mains Fed Water Coolers and Associated Items

- 4 tenders received
 - 4 tenders assessed in the final stage:
 - 4 submitted by small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
 - 0 submitted by voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)
 - 1 supplier awarded contracts
 - 3 suppliers unsuccessful (details included for contracts over £5 million)
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Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Suppliers

Culligan Water (Ireland) Ltd

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PMHC-8491-JZCJ

88 Harcourt Street

Dublin

D02 DK15

Ireland

Email: sales@culligan.ie

Website: <https://www.culligan.ie/>

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 1. Lot 1 - Bottle Fed Water Coolers and Associated Items

IRISH FOOD & BEVERAGES LTD

- Companies House: NI620217
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVQR-4971-RGJN

2nd Floor The Cornmill

Coalisland

BT71 4LP

United Kingdom

Email: info@rocwellwater.com

Website: <http://www.rocwellwater.com>

Region: UKN0B - Mid Ulster

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 2. Lot 2 - Mains Fed Water Coolers and Associated Items

Contracting authority

the Education Authority

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PPHJ-6982-JPXY

40 Academy Street

Belfast

BT1 2NQ

United Kingdom

Email: equipment.procure@eani.org.uk

Region: UKN06 - Belfast

Organisation type: Public authority - central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Northern Ireland