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Contract

## **Open Digital Planning - Back Office Planning System (BOPS) Development and Route-to market**

Buckinghamshire Council

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-076401

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-059290 ([view related notices](#))

Published 24 November 2025, 11:49am

### **Scope**

### **Reference**

25 26 436

### **Description**

Buckinghamshire Council is the national lead and contract holder for the Back Office Planning System (BOPS), a key component of the Open Digital Planning (ODP) programme, which is fully sponsored by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). BOPS is being developed in coordination with two sister products—PlanX (led by Lambeth Council) and the Digital Planning Register (led by Camden Council)—as part of a comprehensive digital transformation of planning services in the UK. This is for the provision of development of additional modules and route-to-market workstream for this project.

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## **Contract 1. Variation Agreement in respect of a Framework Order Form for services regarding the development of a Back Office Planning System between Buckinghamshire Council and Unboxed Consulting Limited**

### **Supplier**

- [Unboxed Consulting Limited](#)

### **Contract value**

- £1,268,000 excluding VAT
- £1,521,600 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

### **Date signed**

10 November 2025

### **Contract dates**

- 10 November 2025 to 1 September 2026
- 9 months, 22 days

### **Main procurement category**

Services

## **CPV classifications**

- 72212100 - Industry specific software development services

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## **Other information**

### **Conflicts assessment prepared/revised**

Yes

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## **Procedure**

### **Procedure type**

Direct award

### **Direct award justification**

Switching to direct award

The direct award is justified on two grounds: prototypes and development, and single supplier (technical reasons).

This contract is being awarded directly under Schedule 5 of the Procurement Act 2023, which permit direct awards in cases involving specialised development activities and novel service delivery.

The supplier has previously delivered the core platform and is uniquely positioned to provide the required enhancements due to their established technical integration and in-depth understanding of the system architecture. Engaging a new supplier would introduce material risks to interoperability, delivery timelines, and cost efficiency.

The work forms part of a strategically funded programme involving multiple interdependent digital initiatives. Continuity with the incumbent supplier ensures alignment across workstreams, supports programme stability, and mitigates disruption to delivery.

This approach is consistent with the objectives of the Procurement Act to support innovation, efficiency, and value for money in the delivery of public services.

Buckinghamshire Council is the national lead and contract holder for the Back Office Planning System (BOPS), a key component of the Open Digital Planning (ODP) programme, which is fully sponsored by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). BOPS is being developed in coordination with two sister products, as part of a comprehensive digital transformation of planning services in the UK.

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## Supplier

### **Unboxed Consulting Limited**

- Companies House: 05440833

60-62 Commercial Street

London

E1 6LT

United Kingdom

Telephone: 02071834250

Email: [accounts@unboxedconsulting.com](mailto:accounts@unboxedconsulting.com)

Region: UKI42 - Tower Hamlets

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

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## **Contracting authority**

### **Buckinghamshire Council**

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PCLJ-2677-YQXD

The Gateway, Gatehouse Road

Aylesbury

HP198FF

United Kingdom

Email: [procurement@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:procurement@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

Region: UKJ13 - Buckinghamshire CC

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government

