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Planning

Digital Research Infrastructure

University of Exeter

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-081584

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05f2ec

Published 10 December 2025, 3:00pm

Scope

Reference

UOE/2025/088/SD

Description

The University of Exeter is initiating this Early Market Engagement (EME) to inform the development of its Digital Research Infrastructure (DRI), a transformative programme that will underpin the University's future research and innovation capability. This engagement seeks to: Understand the current market landscape, emerging technologies, and service models relevant to Research Computing, HPC, AI, data storage, and research data management. Explore innovative partnership and delivery models to help realise Exeter's long-term digital research vision. Identify opportunities to enhance sustainability, energy efficiency, security, and interoperability across digital research systems. Gather insights to inform technical specifications, procurement strategy, and the DRI roadmap ahead of formal tender activity in 2026.

Total value (estimated)

- £8,300,000 excluding VAT
- £10,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 August 2026 to 1 August 2031
- 5 years, 1 day

Main procurement category

Goods

Additional procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 30211100 - Super computer
- 30210000 - Data-processing machines (hardware)
- 72317000 - Data storage services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom
- UKK - South West (England)

Engagement

Engagement deadline

16 January 2026

Engagement process description

https://uk.eu-supply.com/app/rfq/rwlenrance_s.asp?PID=100826&TID=100106072&B=

Participation

Particular suitability

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

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

2 May 2026

Contracting authority

University of Exeter

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PZYG-2396-XCRZ

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Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government