

Procurement Newsletter

January 2026

- Changes to public procurement rules
- How to register on the Central Digital Platform
- Procurement Act 2023 and the NPPS
- Additional Resources



Procurement Newsletter

We are the Post Office and there is no-one like us. From our travel and financial services, passports to postage, the Post Office network is serving communities across the UK. We have a network of more than 11,500 branches across the UK and every one of our branches is at the heart of its community.

We are introducing a series of newsletters to our Supplier partners to:

- Raise awareness of our values and the subjects that matter to us.
- Provide news, information and training that will help you to do business with us.
- Help you find opportunities to work with us as we grow and change for the future.

Changes to public Procurement rules

Hopefully your organisation is already aware that the law which regulates procurement in the public sector has changed and been replaced by the Procurement Act 2023 starting from 24th February 2025. This is part of a government transformation intended to change the way that public money is spent by using public procurement to deliver ambitious objectives outlined in the new Government's National Procurement Policy Statement (NPPS) for sustainable economic growth and raising living standards in every part of the UK. <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/>

Key Points:

- **Suppliers must register on the Central Digital Platform**, only suppliers registered on this platform can be awarded a contract.
- This applies to any contracts from 1st April 2026 onwards. There is a simple registration process that includes basic information such as company name, reference number, address and a contact email address.
- To allow suppliers to participate in tender events that are advertised in the Central Digital Platform, a full registration is needed. This is the addition of some key company and financial information, which suppliers will be able to maintain.
- This information will be available centrally on the Central Digital Platform to all public organisations and should not need to be replicated when tendering (although we may ask you for an extract of it).

How to register on the Central Digital Platform (CDP)

The government has provided "knowledge drop" videos and guidance for suppliers. We recommend that you watch the videos available on their Knowledge drop page (see Additional Resources).

Information on how to register on the CDP can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-act-2023-short-guides/suppliers-how-to-register-your-organisation-and-first-administrator-on-find-a-tender-in-three-easy-steps-.html> or there is a useful video to demonstrate the process : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XxsbVW4q-k0>

The Procurement Act 2023 and the NPPS

The government has provided "knowledge drop" videos and guidance for suppliers to increase awareness of the changes in the Procurement Act. There is also specific videos and guidance targeting small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) and voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSEs) as they are the focus and intended beneficiaries of some of the changes under the act and the National Procurement Policy Statement (NPPS).

We recommend that you watch the videos available on their Knowledge drop page (see Additional Resources) or directly on YouTube to familiarise yourself on how the new Act and the supporting legislation will change the way procurement exercises will be conducted. The training explains the key changes to the previous regulations, and how these may benefit SMEs and VCSEs when doing business with the UK public, utilities or defence sectors, or health and social care through the light touch regime, which has been retained in the Act as 'light touch' contracts. Also explained is how the Act makes it easier for suppliers to participate in procurements, through the introduction of a new Central Digital Platform and early market engagement.

The Central Digital Platform is built on the existing Find a Tender Services (FTS) platform, which you may already be familiar with. The platform allows suppliers to search for opportunities and receive alerts. The increase in publication of information via the new notices and reports introduced by the act is intended to provide greater transparency of how public money is being spent and the opportunities available across the public sector. This should allow companies more ability to plan and to take part in early market engagement.

Additional Resources

For more information and to keep up to date with the detail of the Act and the changes as they are being implemented you can sign up to be in the government mailing list. There are also several conferences and regional events taking place. Reach out to your business and industry federations and organisations.

[The Official Transforming Public Procurement Knowledge Drops - GOV.UK](#)

[Suppliers: How to register your organisation and first administrator on Find a Tender in three easy steps \(HTML\) - GOV.UK](#)

[Video guide for suppliers: How to register an organisation and the first administrator in 3 easy steps](#)

[Find a Tender Service \(Central Digital Platform\)](#)

[National Procurement Policy Statement - GOV.UK](#)

[Benefits for Prospective Suppliers to the Public Sector\)](#)

[The Procurement Act 2023 - a short guide for suppliers \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

[Animations and videos - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Government Commercial Function \(on YouTube.com\)](#)

[Central digital platform factsheet](#)

Who do I contact for help?



Please read the guidance on our website <https://corporate.postoffice.co.uk/en/governance/our-suppliers/working-with-us/>

If you require any further advice, please contact procurement@postoffice.co.uk