



Department
of Health

Procurement News

September 2017

Welcome to 'Procurement News'.

This newsletter is for all colleagues within the Department of Health and its ALBs who have an interest in procurement and commercial activities.

You may forward to colleagues within the health family who have an interest in commercial issues. If was forwarded to you, you can [sign up to receive future editions](#).

If you have anything to contribute, feedback or suggestions for future stories please [get in touch](#).

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Crown Commercial Service customer updates: September 2017

The latest issue (published 6th September) is available [here](#). This month there is news on:

- CCS Aggregation
- Automatic Number Plate Recognition
- Case Studies: G-Cloud Halves Cost of DWP 'Tell us Once'
- Upcoming Events
- New frameworks: Estates Professional Services, Specialist Courier Services, Tech Services 2, Vehicle Conversions DPS
- New contract notices: Spend Analysis and Recovery Services
- Details of recently expired and extended frameworks

Procurement Policy Notes (PPNs)

All Procurement Policy Notes (PPN's) are published [on the CCS website here](#).

No new PPNs have been published since the last edition.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The GDPR will replace the current Data Protection Act in May 2018 and will retroactively apply to all ongoing contracts holding personal data. DCMS are leading on this for Government, and the Cabinet Office Knowledge and Information Management (KIM) team have established a cross-Whitehall group covering the implementation of all critical aspects of the GDPR.

CCS have established a cross-department Task and Finish Group that will establish common terms and guidance relating to contract documents. It is hoped that these new terms and standard clauses will commence with the launch of the G-Cloud 10 commercial arrangement in December 2017 at the latest. The short form terms and conditions, standard terms and conditions and the model services contract will all be updated to reflect the changes. Draft documents, including Procurement Policy Notes will be circulated to the PPWG for comment prior to publication.

Further updates on GDPR will be shared via Procurement News when they arise.

SMEs gear up to supply to government through new £3bn tech deal

One hundred SMEs have signed up for the chance to secure a share of an estimated £3bn of IT investment over the next four years - giving them the chance to grow their businesses by helping the government to deliver more efficient, effective public services.

Crown Commercial Service (CCS) has today awarded its new Technology Services 2 framework, with small and medium-sized enterprises representing more than 60% of the total number of suppliers signed up.

CCS is estimating that the framework will help public bodies to save more than £180 million over four years - money that can be spent on delivering frontline services.

Full article is available [here](#).

Knowledge Hub

Knowledge Hub is a digital platform for sharing information on best practice, skills, and events amongst colleagues and other likeminded professionals.

The cross departmental Government Commercial Function (GCF) Community on the Hub has been established to allow people to share the wealth of commercial knowledge that exists across government, highlighting examples of best practice, advertising events and developing the skills needed to achieve the stated aim of becoming the best commercial function in the United Kingdom.

The content might be of interest. You can register at <https://khub.net/sign-up>

Legal Issue: Who is the correct contracting party?

When drafting a contract to accompany the procurement documents it is important to check who the parties to the eventual contract will be. DH deals with a number of low and medium value contracts itself. It needs to make sure that those contracts are in the name of the Secretary of State for Health on behalf of the Crown rather than in the name of the Department of Health.

Why does this matter?

The reason is that DH has no separate legal identity from SoS so DH may not enter into contracts in its own name. SoS has his own legal identity so he may enter into contracts. In order to make sure that the Government may benefit from the contracts DH is letting it is important to remember to add “on behalf of the Crown” so that this may happen.