

Promotional Merchandise and Clothing (OFF3174 NW)

SUMMARY

Start date: 1st May, 2023

End date: 30th April, 2025

OJEU Number: 2022/S 000-022408

Lead Consortium: NWUPC

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<https://www.hecontracts.co.uk/agreements/1075>

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SCOPE

The Framework has been divided into the following lots.

Lot 1 Promotional Merchandise

~~Lot 2 Vouchers and Gift Cards~~ - Process discontinued and will be re-run in the coming months - Lot 2 on the previous agreement has been extended to bridge the gap

Lot 2 - Promotional Clothing (was Lot 3)

Products

The Framework has been established for the provision of the following goods by lot:

Lot 1 Promotional Merchandise includes, but is not limited to, the following scope; technology products, desk accessories, bags, hardware and safety products, key lights and torches, leisure and sports products, drinkware and ceramics, home and living products, key chains, badge holders and stress relievers, notebooks and portfolios, writing instruments, hats, sweatshirts, polo shirts, sweaters, hi vis vests, fleece jackets, cardigans, hoodies, varsity jackets, vest tops, padded jackets, bomber jackets, trousers, body warmers, shorts, ties, aprons, tunics, scarfs and shirts. This lot covers both sales to participating member institutions and direct student purchases through a webshop facility. It is not a mandatory requirement that awarded suppliers are able to offer a webshop facility. This list is not exhaustive.

Lot 2 Promotional Clothing includes, but is not limited to, the following scope; hats, sweatshirts, polo shirts, sweaters, hi vis vests, fleece jackets, cardigans, hoodies, varsity jackets, vest tops, padded jackets, bomber jackets, trousers, body warmers, shorts, ties, aprons, tunics, scarfs and shirts and will also include direct sales to students. This list is not exhaustive.

AGREEMENT BENEFITS

The benefits of using this Framework Agreement are:

- More advantageous pricing based on economies of scale from aggregated spend, with no price increases considered prior to 30th April 2024
- A wide array of services are available free of charge through the agreement
- Coverage for free of charge samples and loan furniture
- A detailed Specification of Requirements is provided covering relevant standards and marking requirements.
- The call-off Terms and Conditions have been established at framework.
- Reduced administrative effort and associated cost savings.
- Multiple methods of call-off including direct award, desktop exercise and full mini-competition including permitted variation of weightings
- The ability to request bespoke/customised products
- Access to products with recognised sustainability standards
- Access to Real Living Wage accredited suppliers where required
- Contract management initiatives around supply chain traceability for high-risk products, and packaging initiatives to support reductions in waste
- The development of a longer-term relationship with suppliers which is mutually beneficial.
- The Framework allows for the flexibility to determine specific requirements at the call off stage.
- Framework Agreements support longer term business planning as they span a period of typically four years and allow some stability from market fluctuations.
- NWUPC and your Consortium will provide contract management support to you should you experience any issues with suppliers and will act in your best interests.

USING THE FRAMEWORK

Using a Framework Agreement

As a publicly funded body the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (PCR 15) govern your purchasing obligations. The principles of the regulations are that you must demonstrate non-discrimination, equal treatment, transparency, mutual recognition and proportionality in all your purchases. These regulations come into force when your organisation's spend on a certain product or service or contract over a reasonable period of time exceeds the threshold amount (please see the relevant procurement policy note for the current thresholds). This means the total aggregated spend typically over a four year period and not just one off orders.

Framework Agreements are established as a simplified route to market for you to use. The Framework will have been tendered following all the guidelines and requirements of the PCR 15 so that you can be assured of compliance with legal regulations. By combining the purchasing power of several organisations within your region or even with all the organisations in the sector you will also be able to benefit from preferential terms and pricing arrangements. Because the Framework has been tendered compliantly, you do not need to conduct a full tender process yourself and more details on how to "call off" (how to buy) will be provided in this document.

SUPPLIERS

Lot	Suppliers
Lot 1 - Promotional Goods	Allwag Promotions Ltd., Banner Group Ltd, Extravaganza Ltd, Get Yourself Noticed Ltd., Hambleside Merchandise Ltd., Lyreco UK Limited, PA Promotions Ltd., Pinfold Promotions Ltd, Streamline Corporate Ltd, The Purple Company (UK) Ltd,
Lot 2 - Promotional Clothing	Healthy Bean Ltd, International Insignia Ltd., JSW Marketing Uniwear Ltd., Pink Sheep Marketing Ltd., T King Associates,

SUSTAINABILITY

The NETpositive Supplier Engagement Tool will be used as part of contract management.

The UKUPC Supply Chain Code of Conduct was issued to suppliers as part of this tender.

At Selection Suppliers were assessed for:

- [Compliance with the requirements of the Modern Slavery Act 2015](#)
- Payment of the Real Living Wage
- Carbon Reduction Plan

Recognising both the environmental and social risks associated with in-scope products, with the award criteria, suppliers were asked questions on the following topics:

- Accessibility and Inclusivity
- Supply Chain Transparency & Labour Conditions
- Packaging Materials
- Re-use and Recycling Services including Re-use, Repair and Refurbishment
- Delivering Social Value

There are also minimum standards included in the specification related to:

- Raw material sourcing including sustainable sourcing
- Health and Safety
- Packaging volume reporting
- Sustainable product design and circular economy

NEXT STEPS

Once you have signed the purchase order (quoting the Framework Reference and Title) you have a requirement to publish on Contracts Finder.

As per the requirements of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR 2015), Institutions are required to publish details of all contracts awarded above the £25,000 threshold; Sub Central Contracting Authorities are subject to. This includes those awarded post call-off from framework agreements.

The contracting authority must publish details of who has been awarded to the contract and the value of the contract along with information regarding the classification of the awarded supplier.

For further information please visit the Contracts Finder website:

<https://www.gov.uk/contracts-finder>