**SUMMARY**

Start date: 1st January, 2018  
End date: 31st December, 2021  
OJEU Number: 2017/S 185-378714  
Lead Consortium: NWUPC  
Main contact: David Yates  
Website: [https://www.hecontracts.co.uk/agreements/486](https://www.hecontracts.co.uk/agreements/486)

**SCOPE**

The Framework Agreement for Paper - Printing and Specialist includes, but is not limited to, the following scope; coated and uncoated papers, recycled and virgin papers, cut sheet and reel papers, a variety of paper sizes including SR, A4 and A3 and a variety of FSC and PEFC certified papers. This list is not exhaustive. These products will be utilised in the following areas; commercial printing units and office environments. This Framework is not intended to fulfil desktop paper requirements, as this is covered by the Office Supplies Agreement. However, specialist papers are expected to be purchased in smaller quantities rather than pallets.

**AGREEMENT BENEFITS**

1. Delivering an overall saving on the total basket of 7%.  
2. More advantageous pricing based on economies of scale from aggregated spend.  
3. Tightly controlled price review periods which is essential in the paper market which is volatile.  
4. Savings can be base lined by comparing prices with the prices you previously paid.  
5. A single exercise to establish the overarching agreement and establish the Terms and Conditions of the Framework.  
6. Reduced administrative effort and associated cost savings.  
7. Suppliers’ approach to sustainability is monitored, reviewed and developed through Contract Management meetings and use of the NetPositive Supplier Engagement Tool.  
8. The development of a longer term relationship with suppliers which is mutually beneficial.  
9. You have the ability to call off from the agreement as and when required rather than needing to undertake a full tender process.  
10. The Framework allows for the flexibility to determine specific requirements at the call off stage.  
11. Framework Agreements support longer term business planning as they span a period of typically four years and allow some stability from market fluctuations.

**USING THE FRAMEWORK**

Although the Framework is not formally ranked we do display the scores achieved by each of the successful suppliers and the option to Direct Award is available to you. You can also call off from the Framework using the Mini Competition route.

**SUPPLIERS**


**SUSTAINABILITY**
The Framework includes a wide variety of FSC, PEFC and Recycled content products and many of these attracted the highest weighting in the basket of goods therefore should offer optimum pricing.

At tender stage we investigated many key sustainability issues such as packaging and Carbon Footprint reduction and offsetting. We also asked questions around transportation and deliveries and closed loop solutions that were available. Many of these closed loop solutions are free of charge and we can provide more information on request.

Although this commodity is low risk for Modern Slavery implications we did ask questions around the supply chain of the suppliers and the labour conditions within the supply chain. We intend to work on this further within Contract Management meetings.

NEXT STEPS