



National
Measurement
Office

Statement of progress on the future operation of the National Physical Laboratory (NPL)

17 June 2013

Further to the Briefing Note published on this website in early April 2013, where the purpose was to:

- raise awareness about the process to select partners to work with the National Measurement Office (NMO) to deliver its aims and the desired outcomes;
- provide interested parties with further details of NMO's current thinking and information to facilitate constructive and focused dialogue in advance of the commencement of the formal Process; and
- make available details of how to register interest and engage with NMO

this is a statement of progress to keep interested parties up to date on the latest developments surrounding the future operation of NPL.

Market testing now completed

Market testing of the feasibility of partnership models and the appetite for involvement from universities and other organisations has now been completed. Discussions have focussed on the best way to run the process, how prospective partners may wish to contribute to the operation of the NPL and the nature of the Minister's ambition to create an associated postgraduate institute – a development since the first round of stakeholder engagement which took place throughout the summer 2012. Over the course of the project, many organisations have declared an interest in participating. Meetings have been offered to all interested parties and members of the project team have had direct discussions with over 40 prospective partners, of which a high proportion have expressed a wish to continue to participate in the process.

Register your interest

Any other prospective partners that have an interest can register their interest by emailing nplfuture@nmo.gov.uk

Further discussion of process and offer

Following the intelligence gathered throughout the market testing phase, further discussions with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), NPL and advisors on the process and offer are currently taking place in advance of the launch of the partner selection process.

What happens next

A launch document is expected to be released following completion of these discussions. This document will set out the proposition for the partnership, the process and requirements from partners and will outline the criteria that will be used for evaluation.