

**Information for those looking to become a supplier or contractor for UK Industrial Fusion Solutions.**

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# UK Industrial Fusion Solutions Limited (UKIFS)

UKIFS is a wholly owned subsidiary of the UK Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA) and has been established to deliver the STEP Programme, a prototype fusion energy plant to be built at West Burton in Nottinghamshire.

Our address is:

**Culham Science Centre
Abingdon
Oxfordshire
OX14 3DB**

**VAT Number:** will be available shortly.

# Social Value

We implement procurement best practice by focusing on achieving value for money, transparency and seek to treat all contractors (including SMEs) fairly and equitably and recognise the important contribution that small businesses can make to the delivery of our organisational objectives and strategies. UKIFS aligns to [UKAEA’s Supply Chain Charter](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukaea-supply-chain-charter)

Social Value is of great importance to both UKAEA and UKIFS and we will regularly engage with the supply chain on how we can successfully employ social value. The goal of fusion research is to provide a low carbon energy source for the second half of this century. Whilst on the path to sustainable fusion energy, we aim to make our progress as environmentally friendly as possible. UKIFS takes its environmental responsibilities very seriously and ensures all statutory obligations relating to waste management and discharges to the environment are strictly complied with.

UKIFS aligns with the UKAEA target to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050. These ambitions form the focus of our [Sustainability Strategy](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukaea-sustainability-strategy), which outlines the main sustainability aspects related to operations, our plans for addressing these and the rationale behind the adopted approach. More information on our sustainability goals and performance can be found in the UKAEA [Annual Report and Accounts for 2022/23](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukaea-annual-report-and-accounts-202223-hc-303).

UKIFS also aligns to the UKAEA [Modern Slavery Statement](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukaea-modern-slavery-statement-20232024) for the financial year 23/24 this outlines our due diligence and how we are mitigating the risk of modern slavery. We encourage our suppliers to read our statement to understand UKIFS and UKAEA policies in relation to modern slavery and human trafficking.

# Opportunities

UKIFS manages and posts opportunities through [EU Supply](https://uk.eu-supply.com/login.asp?B=UKAEA&target=/ctm/Supplier/PublicPurchase/78366) to the platforms [Contracts Finder](https://www.gov.uk/contracts-finder) and [Find a Tender](https://www.gov.uk/find-tender). Contracts Finder is a one-stop-shop for suppliers to identify contract opportunities. For opportunities above Public Procurement thresholds, we advertise on Find a Tender.

Expressions of interest, requests to participate or enquiries, where applicable, should be submitted directly to the Procurement representative named in the advertisement who is responsible for that package of work via EU Supply.

Selection questionnaires (SQs) will be clearly stated within the procurement advertisements and will require submission of information about competencies, qualifications, organisation and relevant experience for the particular project advertised.

UKIFS operates in accordance with UK Government Policy. It is essential that a valid purchase order is in place before commencement of any works, supplies or services for, or on behalf of UKIFS. Failure to operate in accordance with this requirement will restrict enablement of payment. In effect no order no payment. Please see [managing public money](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/managing-public-money) for more information.

Due to the actions of the Russian government, UKIFS will not be conducting any procurement, commercial, business development or supply chain activity with any Russian/Belarusian entity. This includes any goods or services originating from a Russian/Belarusian source, even if not necessarily the Main Contractor. When conducting business with UKIFS, the supply chain should confirm they are wholly aligned with this policy.

The UK stands with Ukraine; Russia’s assault on Ukraine is an unprovoked, premeditated attack against a sovereign democratic state. The UK and our international partners stand united in condemning the Russian government’s reprehensible actions, which are an egregious violation of international law and the UN Charter.

# Procurement Pipeline

The UKIFS Procurement Pipeline is reviewed and published every quarter and outlines probable, upcoming procurement opportunities with relevant details such as the responsible procurement officer who can be contacted for more information.

Note that information may be subject to change.

# Routes to market

We use a number of methods to purchase goods and services. The approach taken will depend on the contract value, type of product/service, the complexity of the requirement and the duration of the agreement.

* Direct orders – Low value off the shelf purchases (current threshold <£20,000). Demonstration of value for money is required as well as 3 quotations provided. A simple purchase order with terms and conditions is issued for low value purchases.
* Frameworks – A framework agreement is an agreement or arrangement with one or more suppliers that establishes the requirement and contract conditions that will apply to future orders or tasks (contracts) that UKIFS may enter into during the period for which the framework agreement is established. Frameworks enable UKIFS to place orders or tasks under the framework agreement to participating, pre-assessed suppliers without having to undertake a full procurement exercise each time they wish to place orders or tasks. These may be Frameworks directly competed by UKIFS or via other Public Sector Bodies such as CCS (Crown Commercial Services).
* Tenders – for procurements above £20,000, we utilise Contracts Finder and Find a Tender Service subject to financial value, whether above or below threshold. UKIFS operates all tender activity through [EU Supply portal](https://uk.eu-supply.com/login.asp?B=UKAEA&target=/ctm/Supplier/PublicPurchase/78366).

# Market Engagement

UKIFS recognises the pivotal role that market engagement plays in delivering sustainable fusion energy and maximising its economic benefit and we will continue to adopt a continuous and consistent market engagement strategy.

# The Fusion Cluster

Fusion energy is too complex for any one organisation or even sector to achieve alone – which is why The Fusion Cluster was established in October 2021. It brings together private fusion companies, the supply chain, investors, government and academia to get to fusion faster.

The cluster is open to anyone in the UK working to realise the potential of fusion energy, plus overseas fusion energy providers with ambitions to operate here. The Fusion Cluster creates connections, facilitates knowledge sharing and helps organisations find the partners they need to advance their work on fusion.

For more information, including how to join, please see [The Fusion Cluster website](https://thefusioncluster.com/).

# Contact the procurement team

Contact us at:  STEP Procurement - procurement@step.ukaea.uk