



KCS procurement services

Public Sector

ISSUE 7 – JULY 2023

procurement matters



PUBLIC SECTOR SERVICES



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Want to sign up to our future newsletters and industry articles?

SUBSCRIBE NOW



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In this month's edition

In this edition of Procurement Matters we highlight change within the public sector, and showcase how our frameworks and services can help support organisations through change.



**APSE INSIGHT:
UNDERGROUND
REFUSE SYSTEM**

**DFE
CONNECT
THE CLASSROOM**

**ISO 14001
& ISO 9001
ACCREDITATION**

**GORSE ACADEMY
TRUST MFD
CASE STUDY**

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**SERVICE
AWARDS
2023**

**Best Collaborative
Working Initiative
-FINALIST**



What's on in 2023

Catch our framework supplier events

Are you looking for events to network and hear the latest industry updates and insights?

Keep up with the latest events and webinars from our awarded suppliers across our categories

Dates for your diary:

Phoenix - Empowering education:

Unleash innovation with Microsoft Dynamics 365 and the Power Platform:

Date: Thursday 5 October 2023 Time: 1:00 pm

[SIGN UP](#)

Bevan Brittan - Practical and Legal Guidance for Assessing Capacity:

Date: Thursday 20 July 2023: Time: 12:30pm

[SIGN UP](#)

Browne Jacobson – Shared Insights:

Date: 5 September 2023, 3 October 2023: Time: 9:30am – 10:30 am

[SIGN UP](#)

Protect your data with zero trust cloud printing

Join SCC Document Services and KCS Procurement Services as they discuss how public sector organisations can protect their data using a zero-trust cloud printing solution.

You will have the opportunity to learn more about:

- Customer challenges in the public sector
- Cloud print management solutions from SCC
- Reasons to move to carbon neutral printing

Thu, 14 Sept, 11:00 - 11:45 BST
Online event

[SIGN UP](#)



UK Government investing £456 million to improve school buildings

The UK Government is investing £456 million to help improve, refurbish and repair school buildings across the country for 859 academies, sixth form colleges and voluntary-aided schools. Over 1,000 school building improvement projects will receive the green light due to this funding, with the aim to boost the condition of the school estate.*

Since 2015 the Department for Education has allocated over £15 billion to support the government's priority for schools to have safe, well-maintained facilities that support a high-quality education for pupils.

£1.8 billion of capital funding has been committed for the financial year 2023 to 2024, with the aim to create safer learning environments that make a difference

to the quality of education. As schools continue to embark on rebuilding and work on refurbishment projects, an attractive solution could be the inclusion of temporary and semi-permanent buildings as part of the school estate.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Our Temporary and Semi-permanent Buildings framework gives access to a number of awarded suppliers who provides state of the art modular buildings, containers, cabins and more for both hire and purchase.

For more information about our Temporary and Semi-permanent Buildings framework

[CLICK HERE](#)

Also check out our Total Facilities Management framework which can support with the management of your school's facilities.

[LEARN MORE](#)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/over-450-million-investment-to-improve-school-buildings>



New UK Fire Safety regulations – COMING SOON!

There are several upcoming amendments to the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 which will help to ensure the safety of all buildings to be regulated by the Fire Safety Order (FSO).

The new guidance forms Phase 3 of the Home Office's fire safety reform programme and comes into effect on **October 1st, 2023**. The new amendments continue to strengthen the fire safety in all FSO regulated buildings by:

- Improving cooperation and coordination between Responsible Persons (RPs)
- Increasing requirements in relation to the recording and sharing of fire safety information, thus creating a continual record throughout a building's lifespan

- Making it easier for enforcement authorities to take action against non-compliance
- Ensuring residents have access to comprehensive information about fire safety in their building

[DISCOVER MORE](#)

Our Fire Safety Products and Associated Services framework, gives a compliant route to procure from our awarded suppliers.

For more information about our Fire Safety Products and Associated Services framework.

[VISIT HERE](#)



The largest database of government frameworks. We are thrilled to have joined the

 **framespan platform!**

Framespan is a single comprehensive directory of public sector framework information, designed to make the procurement process quicker, easier and more compliant for public sector buyers. Framespan brings data together directly from many different framework providers allowing it to be presented in a single, easily searchable directory, where buyers can save time by quickly assessing the whole market – and we are delighted to join the community!

Framespan launched in November 2022 and now has:

1,000+ frameworks

18+ framework providers

710 NHS buyers

62 NHS Trusts subscribed

220 other non-NHS buyers (from education, blue light, DEFRA, local authorities and museums)

For more information on all our frameworks visit

www.procurementservices.co.uk/our-solutions/frameworks or contact the team on pscuserenquiries@csltd.org.uk



Insight - Underground Refuse Systems

The future of waste collection in the UK?

We are proudly part of the Association for Public Service Excellence (**APSE**), who work to maintain and develop a network of local government officers, managers and councillors from local authorities across the UK. **APSE** is dedicated to promoting frontline services, with over 300 local authorities and organisations sharing information and expertise on innovative solutions.

APSE recently released a video detailing how Underground Refuse Systems (URS) can help local councils by improving the efficiency and cost effectiveness of both domestic refuse and commercial waste services.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

So are underground bins the future of refuse collection in the UK?

APSE has identified some of the reasons why this could be the case:

1 Huge cost reduction APSE's benchmarking arm, Performance Networks, suggests the current average cost of refuse waste collection per household is about £70 a year, but URS could take this cost per household down to just £30 a year. That equates to nearly half a million pounds a year of savings across just 10,000 properties.

2 Helping with climate change A URS solution has the potential to reduce CO2 emissions by removing the need for refuse collection vehicles which create significant carbon emissions.

3 Boosts recycling URS

encourages recycling and the sealed, underground containers preserve the quality and value of recyclable material.

4 Reduces street litter and pests. The issue of overflowing bins is eliminated leading to lower street cleaning costs and an improved environment.

5 A safer way to collect waste

URS takes away most of the manual handling needed from refuse collectors, therefore making the job safer.

6 Improvement to the street

scape URS is a more subtle way to store and manage waste collection.



Emergency Services Show

19-20 September 2023

Recognised as the premier annual gathering for the blue light sector in the UK, the Emergency Services Show unites more than 500 leading brands. This highly anticipated event provides first hand product demonstrations, invaluable educational experiences led by industry experts and influential figures, and unparalleled opportunities for networking and collaboration.

Unsure whether to attend?

You will be able to;

- Source new equipment, technology and training
- Learn about solutions for operational issues
- Discover emerging technologies
- Join free-to-attend seminar sessions and workshops
- Network with colleagues from across the sector

[SIGN UP TODAY](#)

And did we mention that we will be there!

YOU CAN FIND US AT STAND J102, COME AND SAY HELLO AND SEE HOW WE CAN SUPPORT YOUR ORGANISATION.

Find out more about our emergency services frameworks below:

[Fire Safety Products & Associated Services](#)

[DISCOVER MORE](#)

[Personal Protective Equipment\(PPE\) & Safety Workwear](#)

[DISCOVER MORE](#)

[Uniform, Clothing & Associated Services](#)

[DISCOVER MORE](#)

 **THE EMERGENCY SERVICES SHOW**
NEC | BIRMINGHAM | 19-20 SEPTEMBER 2023



EMERGENCY SERVICES
PROCUREMENT MADE SIMPLE

Depletion of NHS Free Personal Protective Equipment Scheme Stock

In April 2021, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) extended its distribution of free Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the health and care sector, with the aim to provide continued protection against COVID-19. The scheme will last for up to one more year until **31 March 2024**, or until stock depletion occurs. Notably, gowns and gloves are among the items that are depleting at a faster pace with gloves almost completely out of stock. You can find estimated stock-out dates on their website.

[VISIT HERE](#)

Why is PPE important?

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is essential equipment designed to safeguard individuals

from potential workplace hazards, reducing the risk of severe injuries and illnesses. PPE encompasses a range of equipment, including gloves, safety glasses, protective footwear, earplugs or earmuffs, hard hats, respirators, as well as coveralls, vests, and full-body suits.

As the demand for PPE continues to be high, it is crucial to address potential stock shortages. For immediate requirements please get in touch as we have PPE stock provisions available, and depending on your needs we may be able to support. Going forwards for your longer term PPE procurement needs, our PPE & Safety Workwear framework is here to help.

Our PPE framework can help organisations source PPE from our awarded suppliers:

- Global Health and Safety LTD
- Healthy Bean LTD
- Reliance Medical LTD
- Rexel UK LTD
- Sunbelt Rentals LTD
- Protective Wear Supplies

[DISCOVER MORE](#)



Smart Infrastructure Pilots Programme

A new pilot programme will soon be introduced by The Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) to help local authorities boost their digital infrastructure and connectivity. The scheme will be offering a total of **£1.5 million of funding to six local authority-led pilots**, with the funding to be matched by smart service providers working with the participating local authorities.

The programme supports the implementation of the **UK Wireless Infrastructure Strategy**, which sets out a plan for advanced wireless infrastructure to become

a significant player in the UK's economy and society by 2030. Also, the programme aims to educate people, businesses and public sector organisations across the UK around the benefits of 5G and other wireless connectivity available.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

At KCS Procurement Services, our **Communications Solutions and Associated Telephony Services** framework covers the provision and installation of a full range of communication solutions, associated services, equipment,

support and maintenance. Some of these services include, WIFI/ internet access, local connectivity services, broadband and more.

[VISIT HERE](#)



DfE Connect the Classroom

Is your school eligible for funding? What is Connect the Classroom?

The Connect the Classroom scheme is a Department for Education (DfE) initiative which provides funding for eligible schools across the UK to update their wireless network infrastructure.

The government has identified all eligible schools and has grouped them into three different categories; priority education investment areas, education investment areas and intervention schools. Overall the scheme will cover over 2,700 schools across the UK.

The initiative has the ability to transform communication within schools and upgrade network infrastructure with new technology so pupils can ultimately benefit from fast, modern and reliable connectivity to enhance their learning.

Next steps?

The Connect the Classroom scheme is currently underway and all eligible schools will be contacted directly the DfE.

As a DfE-approved framework for schools provider, we are a compliant procurement route for schools to use when looking to take part in Connect the Classroom. Find out more about the relevant frameworks you can access to benefit from Connect the Classroom in your school.



DISCOVER MORE

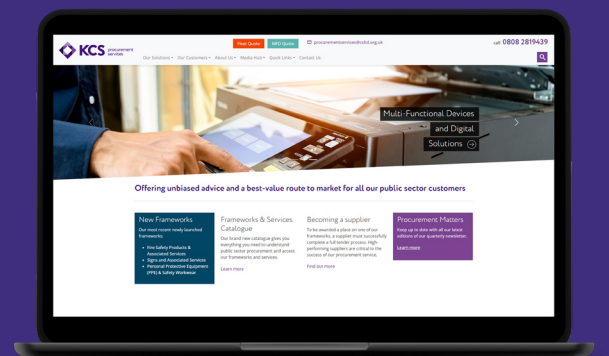
DfE approved frameworks for schools

KCS Procurement Services has been awarded DfE approved status on a number of technology frameworks for schools, including:

- Audio Visual Solutions
- Communications Solutions & Associated Telephony Services
- Education Management Systems
- IT Hardware
- Multifunctional Devices & Digital Solutions
- Software Products & Associated Services

To find out more about our frameworks, visit:

DISCOVER MORE



How to lead with your ESG commitment

Ricoh's ESG commitment is not just a part of our history; it's an integral part of our DNA.

An organisation's ESG commitment is relevant to, and underlies, every stakeholder group and business area. It's important for businesses to recognise the spotlight they're under. Customers, employees, and other stakeholders are more tuned-in to "green-washing" and "clout-chasing" than ever before. Therefore, your ESG values need to be sincere and demonstrable.

Our ESG commitment

Our ESG strategy is based on the 17 **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDG's) laid out by the United Nations in 2015. They address key social and environmental issues.

A commitment to these goals, and a rejection of apathy and stagnation, are vital. Our research suggests that 1 in 4 business leaders believe their organisation can't make improvements to reduce their environmental impact. Further, 60% of decision makers agreeing there are no incentives for C-suite executives to help mitigate environmental impacts.

People

Our global mission is to help people find fulfilment through work. This feeling is gained from achievement and self-

development. If we enable people to work smarter, we can unleash their potential and creativity to realise a sustainable future. This applies to our own employees as well as our customers' workforce.

The planet

Our approach to sustainability touches every part of our organisation. From manufacturing to distribution, business sites to recycling, and how we work and consult with our customers.

Ricoh's commitment to the environment is based on socially responsible supply chain management. This includes a best-practice approach to carbon reductions and a circular economy. We are aiming for Net Zero, and have set a 100% renewable energy target for 2050. We have also committed to reducing 63% of all direct greenhouse gas emissions from our manufacturing sites, offices, and vehicles by 2030.

Communities

In February 2023, Ricoh donated twelve million Japanese yen to support global humanitarian relief. This was in addition to volunteering and donations of goods. Ricoh UK plays an important part in this global effort.

Looking ahead

ESG is an ever-changing landscape, with new targets, directives, and data coming out all the time. Whilst it is crucial for

organisations to have clear targets and metrics broken down by business activity and function, it is also important to be agile in their approach.

We evaluate performance not just on financial metrics, but on how we respond and act in response to the greater societal and environmental challenges we all face. Though ESG goals are always evolving, it's important to remain committed, agile, and motivated.

If you would like to contact Ricoh, visit: <https://www.ricoh.co.uk/>

Ricoh is an awarded supplier on our Managed Services, Multi-Functional Devices & Digital Solutions and Records Information Management frameworks.

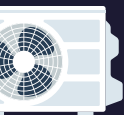
MFD AND DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

MANAGED SERVICES

RECORDS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

RICOH





The importance of monitoring CO2 levels in your organisation

In 2021 – when Covid-19 was a significant concern for schools – the government provided CO2 monitors to state-funded education settings as part of a [£25 million investment to help improve indoor ventilation measures](#). The purpose of this initiative was to ensure staff were able to quickly act if ventilation within classrooms was poor and, at the time, prevent the spread of Covid-19.*

Fast forward two years and, despite Covid-19 being under control within the UK and schools having returned to normal, there is still very much a need to monitor the levels of CO2 in classrooms.

But why?

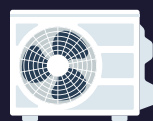
Improving ventilation not only reduces the risk of virus

transmission and illnesses, but also improves student’s wellbeing, concentration and productivity – therefore leading to improved attendance levels and potentially grades.

And it’s not just schools that benefit from CO2 monitoring, public sector organisations also have a responsibility to be aware of the impact CO2 levels are having on their employees and environment. The Health and Safety Executive has a key focus on ventilation in the workplace and they outline how to identify poor ventilation and how to improve it.

For further guidance you can

[VISIT HERE](#)



Our Total Facilities Management framework can help your organisation to improve air quality by monitoring CO2 levels within your premises and in turn enhance the wellbeing of your people. Our awarded suppliers on this framework are:

- [AMB UK](#)
- [Amey](#)
- [Bellrock Property & Facilities Management Ltd](#)
- [CBRE Managed Services](#)
- [Compass Contract Services](#)
- [Pinnacle Housing Ltd](#)

[DISCOVER MORE](#)

* <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-schools-to-receive-carbon-dioxide-monitors>

We are proudly ISO 14001 & ISO 9001 compliant and accredited by the British Assessment Bureau!

These outstanding achievements demonstrate our strong quality standards, processes, and policies that feed into the planning and performing of activities whilst maintaining our environmental practices and procedures.

What does ISO 14001 Environmental Management accreditation mean for organisations?

- Demonstrates green credentials
- Reduces costs, overheads and wastage
- Focuses on proactive management
- Impresses existing clients
- Enhances employee engagement
- Improves your reputation
- Ensures legislative awareness and compliance
- Can help drive more business

What does ISO 9001 Quality Management System accreditation mean for organisations?

- Can help drive more business opportunities
- Creates consistent, repeatable processes
- Stands out from competitors
- Improves efficiency
- Impresses existing clients
- Engages staff and creates positive culture
- Helps to achieve operational excellence
- Can create cost savings

[Find out more about our accreditation](#)

[DISCOVER MORE](#)



Are you aware of the PSTN Switch Off?



The copper wire telephone network has served our nation since 1876. It has kept hospitals, schools and emergency services connected and allowed friends and family to communicate, but unfortunately, is no longer efficient to run.

In November 2017, BT Openreach announced its intention to switch off the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN), which means everyone, including public sector organisations, across the UK using this network will be affected and will need to move to another service by 2025.

September 2023 is known in the industry as **UK stop sell**, where customers across the country will not be able to purchase traditional phone lines or add new features to existing.

What is the alternative?

Digital phone lines that will provide not only a greener, faster and more reliable service but also a modernized telephone network that will allow the UK stay connected.

What can you do now?

Join us at our next edition of The Procurement Pulse to learn more about the PSTN Switch Off.

To find out more and to get expert advice, join us on Thursday 20th July as we host our next episode of The Procurement Pulse. In this edition, we will be collaborating with one of our awarded Communication Solutions & Associated Telephony Services framework suppliers Gamma, to discuss:

- The PSTN switch off
- Guidance and tips to take action
- Highlight our framework and the awarded suppliers who can support you with the switch off
- A chance for you to ask questions and get expert advice

REGISTER NOW



The
Procurement
Pulse





Case Study



The Gorse Academies Trust Case Study

Multi-Functional Devices and Digital Solutions



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KCS Procurement Services

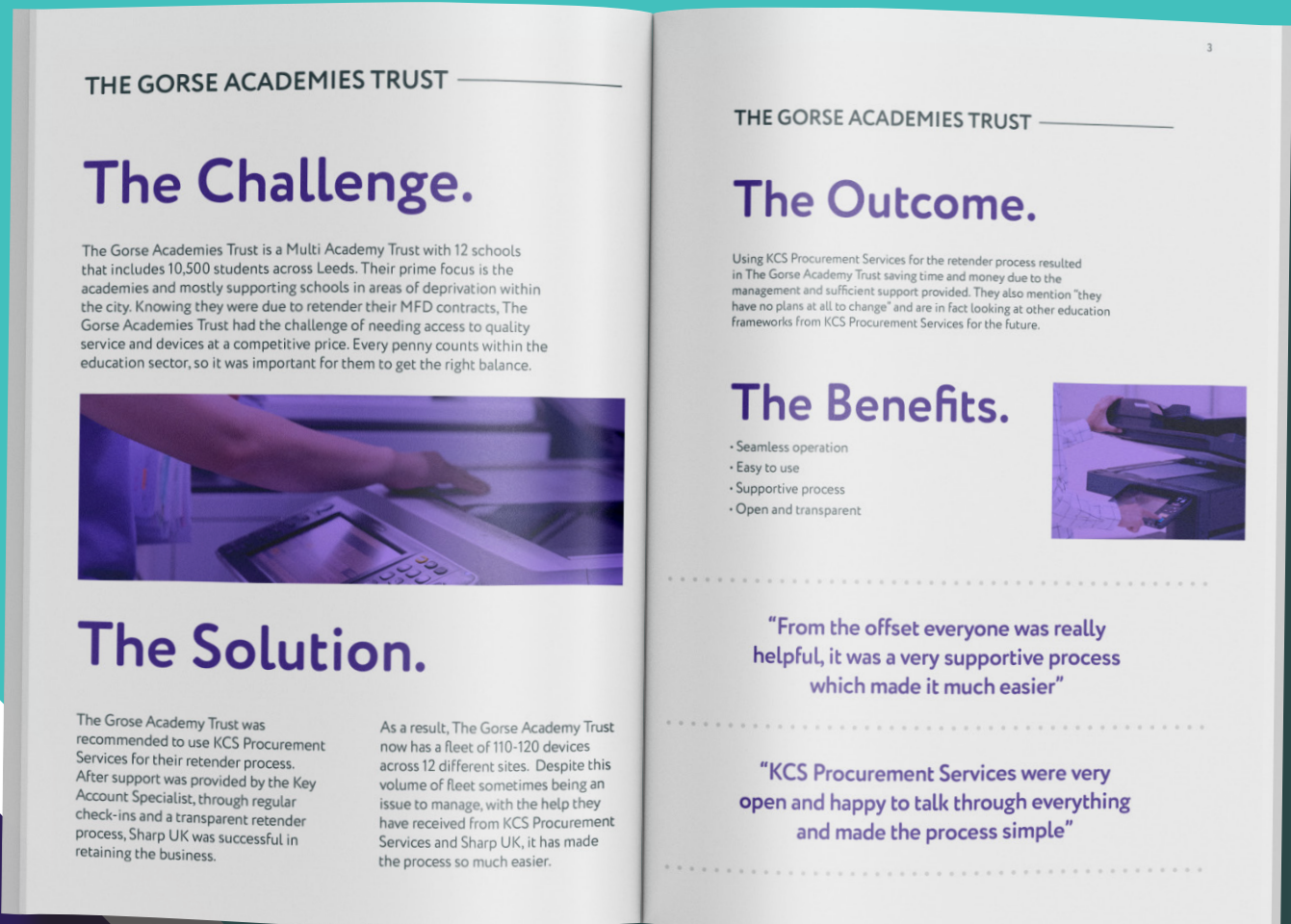
Tel. 0808 281 9439
Web. www.procurementservices.co.uk
email. procurementservices@cssta.org.uk

The Gorse Academies Trust is a Multi Academy Trust with 12 schools 10,500 students across Leeds, Bradford and Yorkshire. A prime focus is supporting schools in areas of deprivation within the city. Knowing they were due to retender their MFD contracts, The Gorse Academies Trust had the challenge of needing access to quality service and devices at a competitive price. Every penny counts within the education sector, so it was important for them to get the right balance.

After an already close working relationship with Sharp UK, The Gorse Academy Trust was recommended to use KCS Procurement Services for their retender process. Throughout the process, support was provided by our Key Account Specialist, with regular check ins and the arrangement of new devices with the added benefit of staying with Sharp UK.

As a result, The Gorse Academy Trust now has a fleet of 110-120 devices across 12 different sites. Despite this volume of fleet sometimes being an issue to manage, with the help they have received from KCS Procurement Services and Sharp UK, it has made the process so much easier.

VIEW FULL CASE STUDY



THE GORSE ACADEMIES TRUST

The Challenge.

The Gorse Academies Trust is a Multi Academy Trust with 12 schools that includes 10,500 students across Leeds. Their prime focus is the academies and mostly supporting schools in areas of deprivation within the city. Knowing they were due to retender their MFD contracts, The Gorse Academies Trust had the challenge of needing access to quality service and devices at a competitive price. Every penny counts within the education sector, so it was important for them to get the right balance.



The Solution.

The Gorse Academy Trust was recommended to use KCS Procurement Services for their retender process. After support was provided by the Key Account Specialist, through regular check-ins and a transparent retender process, Sharp UK was successful in retaining the business.

As a result, The Gorse Academy Trust now has a fleet of 110-120 devices across 12 different sites. Despite this volume of fleet sometimes being an issue to manage, with the help they have received from KCS Procurement Services and Sharp UK, it has made the process so much easier.

THE GORSE ACADEMIES TRUST

The Outcome.

Using KCS Procurement Services for the retender process resulted in The Gorse Academy Trust saving time and money due to the management and sufficient support provided. They also mention "they have no plans at all to change" and are in fact looking at other education frameworks from KCS Procurement Services for the future.

The Benefits.

- Seamless operation
- Easy to use
- Supportive process
- Open and transparent



"From the offset everyone was really helpful, it was a very supportive process which made it much easier"

"KCS Procurement Services were very open and happy to talk through everything and made the process simple"

L•A•S•E•R[®]

Your Pathway to Net Zero

For many organisations across the UK the journey to Net Zero feels complex and overwhelming. With limited in-house resources and budget restrictions how can you identify the pathway to achieving your net zero goals?

This is where LASER come in.

We support public sector organisations across the UK with their Net Zero challenges and targets. Streamlining what can often be a complicated process and helping you stay on track, work within budget and even have an experienced partner, us, to assist with the delivery of your projects.

Due to demand within public sector organisations for assistance with achieving Net Zero, we created our own bespoke zero carbon solutions – Review, Reduce & Replace.

If you're starting your journey, Review is where we begin.

The initial review stage helps your organisation to understand its current carbon footprint and identify any strategies currently in use. We can help at any stage of your journey, be this putting in place a roadmap towards net zero, forecasting emissions into the future or with broad consultancy support. These options can help determine the actions needed to achieve carbon reduction targets.

You know what you need to do, now it's getting it done. Let's Reduce

If you know your plan and need assistance in achieving your carbon reduction projects, this is where we can help with our extensive experience and range of compliant frameworks. The team support at all stages, from specifying and procuring to project managing carbon-saving activities.

It's time to switch and look at Replace

Finally, the Replace stage looks at replacing energy from low to zero carbon options. We offer a variety of ways to help you switch from high carbon fuel sources to low or zero carbon alternatives,

using innovative procurement and contractual structures from investigating renewable energy sources to PPA's and more.

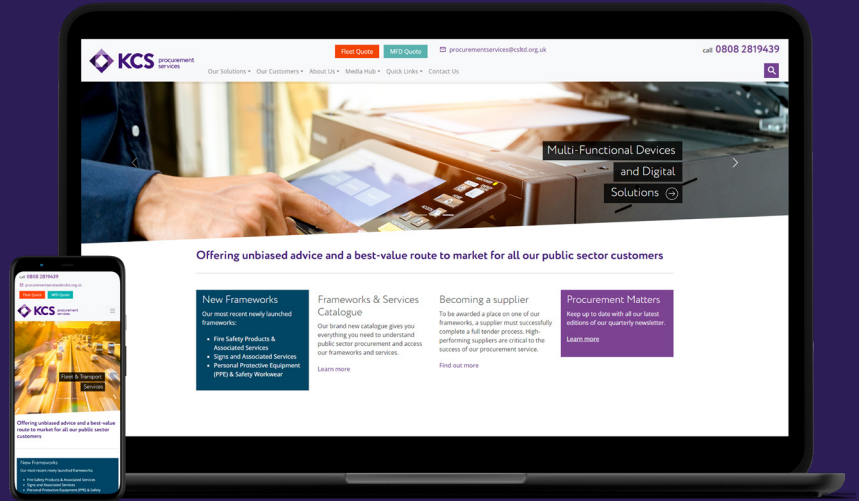
“The work we have done with LASER has allowed us to evaluate our current position and fully grasp the scale of the task of reaching net zero. The forecasts of emissions in different scenarios were particularly useful in that they helped us understand the potential impact that varying options or sets of initiatives might have. In comparison with others, we felt that LASER's work gave us a great level of detail and a strong platform from which to move forwards.” - Karin Gray, Sustainability Manager for Tunbridge Wells Borough Council”

LASER are a part of Commercial Service Group working with public sector organisations across the UK since 1989. Our heritage is built on our in-house energy expertise, our successful procurement strategies and our delivery of projects across a variety of public bodies.

If you are interested in finding out how LASER can help you achieve your net zero targets get in touch with our team by visiting

LASERENERGY.ORG.UK

KCS Procurement Services is a market leading framework provider with a wide range of fully-compliant, national frameworks that are created according to Public Contract Regulations 2015.



What's Coming Soon?



Winter Maintenance – Y23027

The provision of winter maintenance in cold weathers to keep roads safe.

COMING SOON



Emergency Response and Rescue Equipment Services – Y23046

The provision of emergency response and rescue equipment for a variety of public sector organisations.

COMING SOON



Catering, Vending Machines & Water Coolers – Y23009

Covers the provision of a full ranges of catering services including supply and delivery nationwide, vending machines and water coolers.

COMING SOON



Cleaning Services – Y23005

This framework covers the provision of cleaning services, to provide clean and safe environments for all public sector organisations.

NEWLY LAUNCHED

Frameworks & Services Catalogue 2023

Our catalogue gives you everything you need to understand public sector procurement and access our frameworks and services.

[Download catalogue](#)

