# First Steps to Bidding for Contracts

## Welcome

Ruth Cooper, Economic Development Manager



## First Steps to Bidding for Contracts

Council spend and tendering process
Bridget Lambert, Strategic Procurement Manager



## Procurement in Renfrewshire Council

Adults and Children'

City Deal and Infrastructure

Construction

Environment & Infrastructure

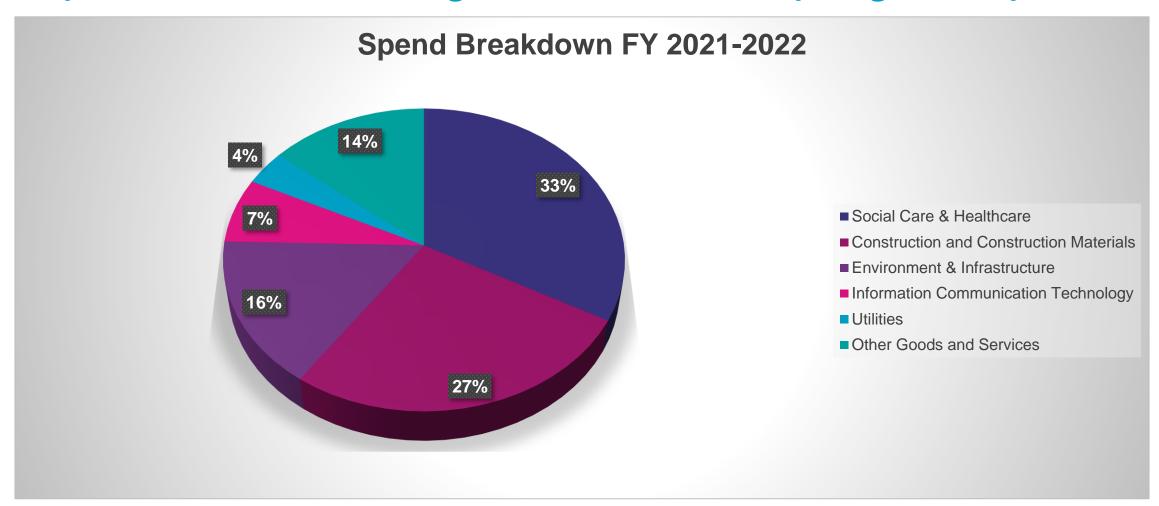
Finance & Corporate

#### **Headline Stats**

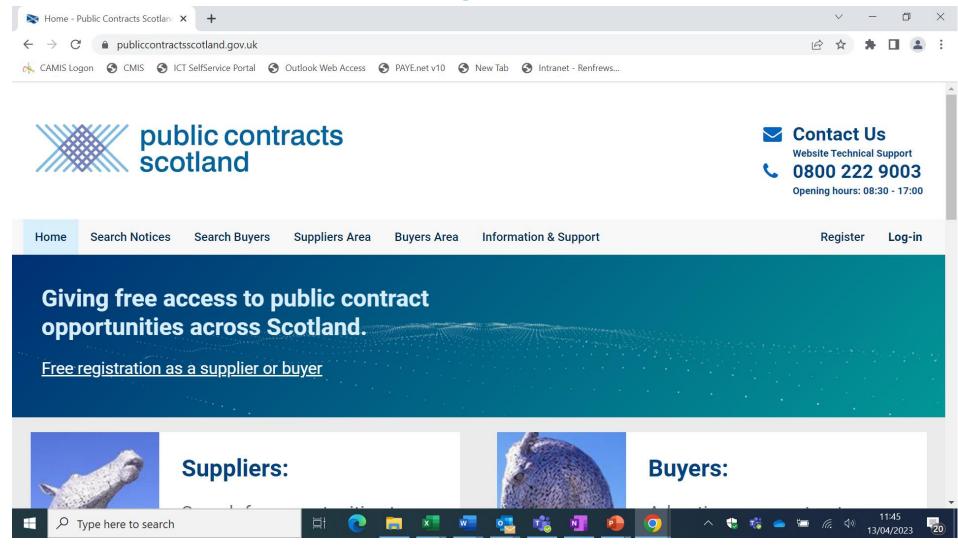
- Award up to 200 new contracts every year
- Value range £25,000 to £millions
- Annual Contract Spend £180 £200 million
- Approx. £34 million annual spend with businesses based in Renfrewshire

#### **Spotlight on Spend**

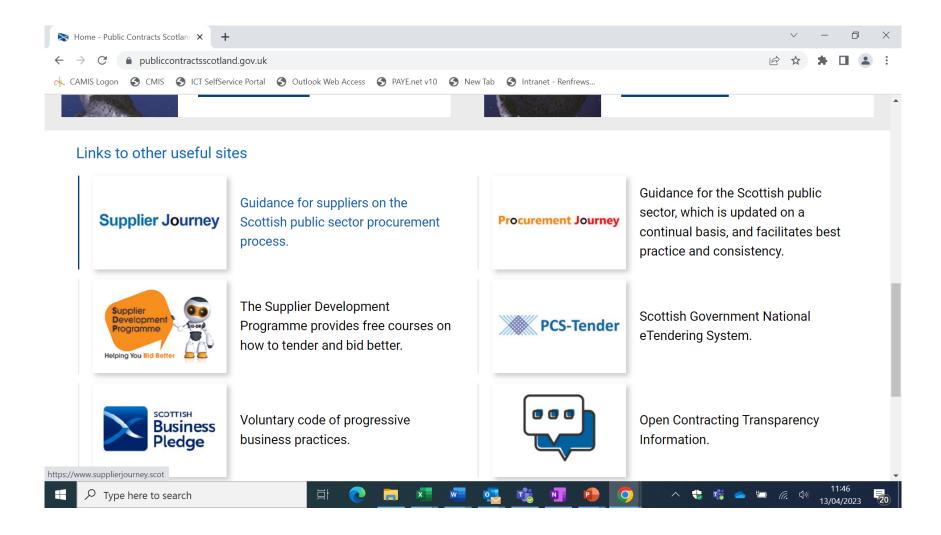
### https://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/3568/Spotlight-on-Spend



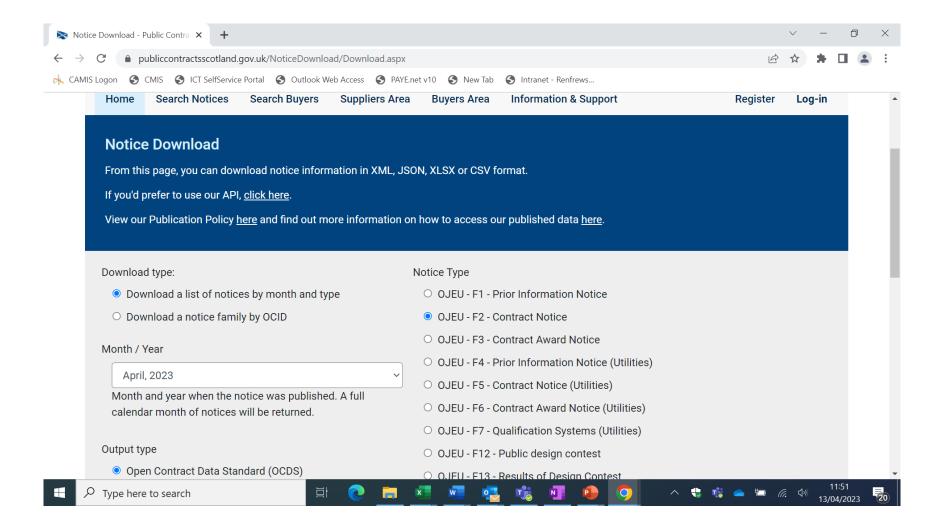
#### www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk



#### **Accessing Information**



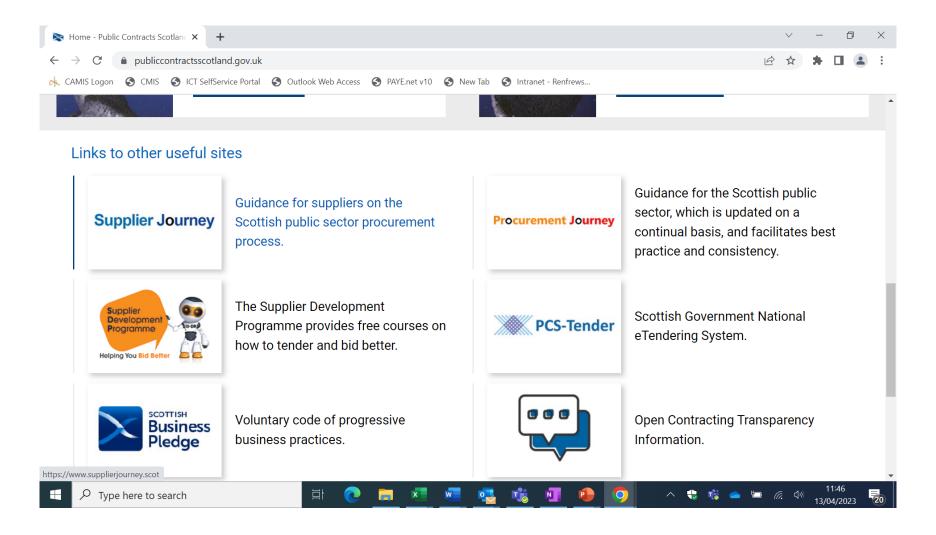
#### **Notice Download**



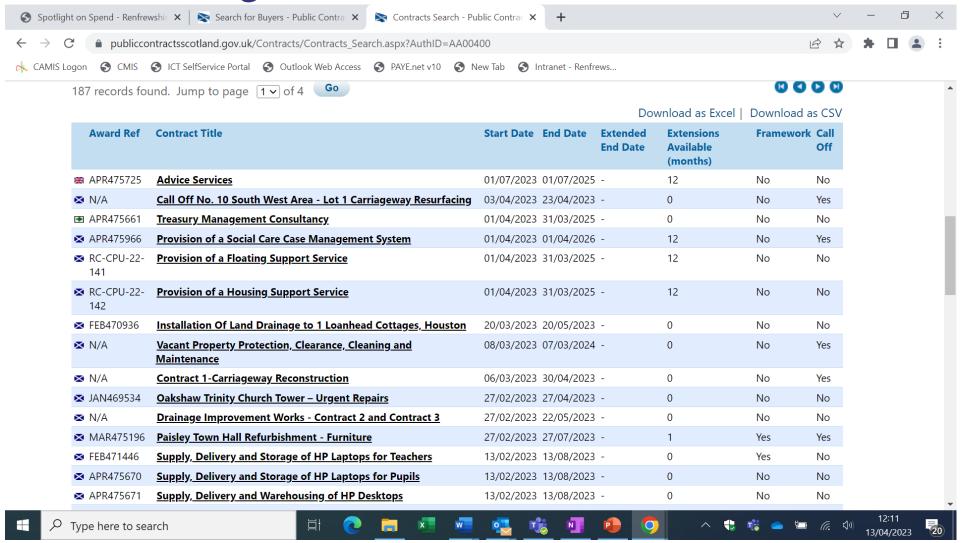
#### **Notice Snapshot**

- CalMac Ferries Limited Supply and Delivery of Marine Lubricating Oils and Greases and Oil Analysis
- University of Strathclyde 5G Technical Support & Programme Delivery Services for The Scotland 5G Centre
- North Ayrshire Council Webcasting & Hybrid Meetings Solution (Council Chambers)
- Glasgow Caledonian University Provision of Air Conditioning/Comfort Cooling Plant Maintenance and Repair (GCU)
- North Lanarkshire Council Maintenance and Servicing Contract for Automatic Air Monitoring Equipment
- Ayrshire College Supply and Delivery of Catering and Hospitality Students Clothing, Footwear and Kits
- Fyne Homes Ltd Supply of Ground Maintenance Services 2023-2028
- Scottish Prison Service Framework Agreement for the Provision of a Quantity Surveying and Project Management Service

#### Accessing Information (back to home page of PCS)



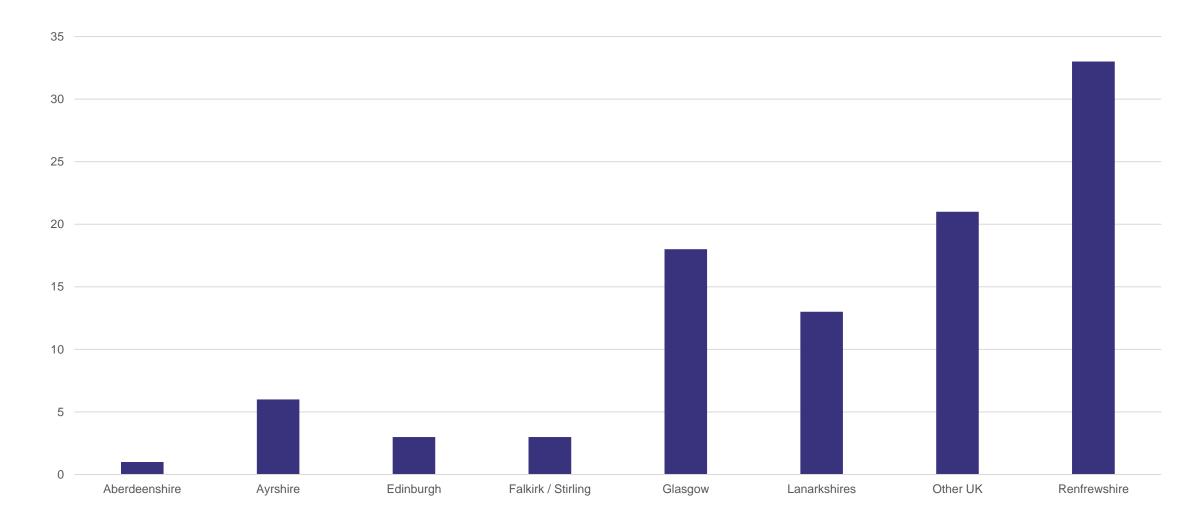
#### **Live Contracts Register**



## **Quick Quote**

- Low value / Low risk and one-off requirements
- Benefits of using the Quick Quote functionality in PCS include:
  - we can search through a register of suppliers to select those we want to bid
  - questions and answers can be provided through this system
  - PCS will provide an audit trail for the process
- Last year we published 18 Quick Quotes
- 98 invitations were sent
- Average of 5.4 per Quick Quote
- 33 invitations were sent to Renfrewshire based businesses.

#### **Invited Suppliers by Region**





## Community Wealth Building

Progressive procurement of goods and services

Develop dense local supply chains of businesses likely to support local employment and retain wealth locally. These include SMEs, employee owned businesses, social enterprises, co-operatives and community businesses.

In 2021-2022 19% of our total contracted spend was with businesses based in Renfrewshire

## Examples of lower value contracts













## 5 key principles of public procurement

Transparency

**Equal Treatment** 

Non-discrimination

Proportionality

Mutual recognition



#### **Contact Details**

- Adults & Children's Services including Education
  - Category Manager: Alexandra Donaldson (Alexandra.Donaldson@renfrewshire.gov.uk)
- Chief Executives and Finance & Resources (Corporate Services)
  - Category Manager: Suzanne Gibb (Suzanne.gibb@renfrewshire.gov.uk)
- City Deal and Infrastructure
  - Category Manager: Rebecca Park (Rebecca.park@renfrewshire.gov.uk)
- Construction
  - Category Manager: Laura Gillan (laura.Gillan@renfrewshire.gov.uk)
- Environment & Infrastructure
  - Category Manager: Graeme Beattie (graeme.beattie@renfrewshire.gov.uk)



**Renfrewshire Council** 



1<sup>st</sup> Steps to Bidding for Contracts





















Aberdeen City Council

Aberdeenshire Council



Argyll and Bute Council

Clackmannanshire Council

North Ayrshire Council

North Lanarkshire Council

Orkney Islands Council

Perth & Kinross Council

Renfrewshire Council



Comhairle nan Eilean























Siar

**Dumfries** and Galloway Council

**Dundee City Council** 

East Ayrshire Council

East Dunbartonshire Council

Scottish Borders Council

Shetland Islands Council

South Ayrshire Council

South Lanarkshire Council

Stirling Council

West Lothian

Council







East Lothian Council











Falkirk Council

Midlothian Council



Fife Council



West Dunbartonshire West Lothian Council Council







Highland Council



Inverclyde Council



Moray Council







Wheatley Group Housing Association

Member



hub East Central Scotland



Forestry and Land Scotland



Highlands and Islands Enterprise



Historic Environment

Scotland



National Records of

Scotland

Opfh | Scotland

PfH Scotland



Jacobs



Levenseat Ltd



RJ McLeod



Robertson Facilities Management Ltd



Registers of Scotland



Scottish Enterprise



Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)



Scottish Fire and Rescue Service



Scottish Government
- Third Sector Unit

#### **Corporate Members**



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Scottish Parliament



Scottish Procurement Alliance



Social Security Scotland



South of Scotland Enterprise



Strathclyde Partnership for Transport



Zero Waste Scotland

#### **Affiliate Members**



## What does SDP deliver for Suppliers?



- An independent, free resource for tender support.
- Full range of tender training courses from the basics to advanced topics.
- Online services, contacts at Councils, jargon buster, videos and guides.
- Access to Buyers through Meet the Buyer events and procurement workshops
- Talking Tenders webinars.



## What does SDP deliver for Suppliers?



- eLearning modules providing 24/7 "on demand" access.
- SDP Helpdesk for general questions.
- Monthly newsletters and proactive social media to alert you to new projects.
- Social media posts and alerts follow the below hashtags!

#HelpingYouBidBetter #10DR #SupplierOpp



## What does SDP deliver for Suppliers?



Focused training, aligned to particular contract opportunities.

Firstly, we show you how to register/ login to PCS and search for the contract notice.

Our expert trainer will follow the buyer instruction verbatim, to record an interest and show you how to search for the actual tender and the documents.

We will demo how to use the OSA functions and explain how to unload your evidence.

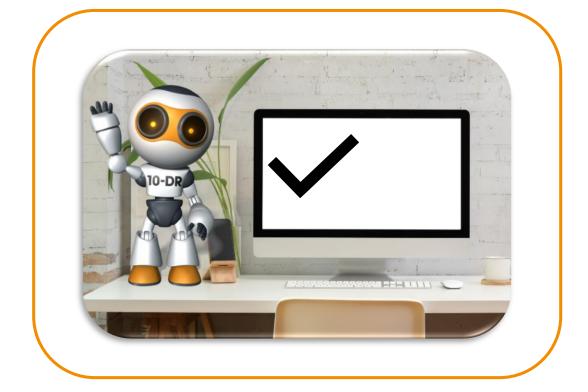
We will demo how to use the Q&A functions and explain how to upload your evidence and attachments.

We will also show you how to use the validate and submit buttons, while giving you top tips on what good looks like with regards to inputting key information within the word limit.



## **Top Tips for Tendering**

- Research the market
- Pre-planning / prepare
- Sustainability themes
- Build a Tender Library
- Bid no bid decision making info
- Network use the Meet the Buyer opportunities.





## Public Contracts Scotland (PCS)

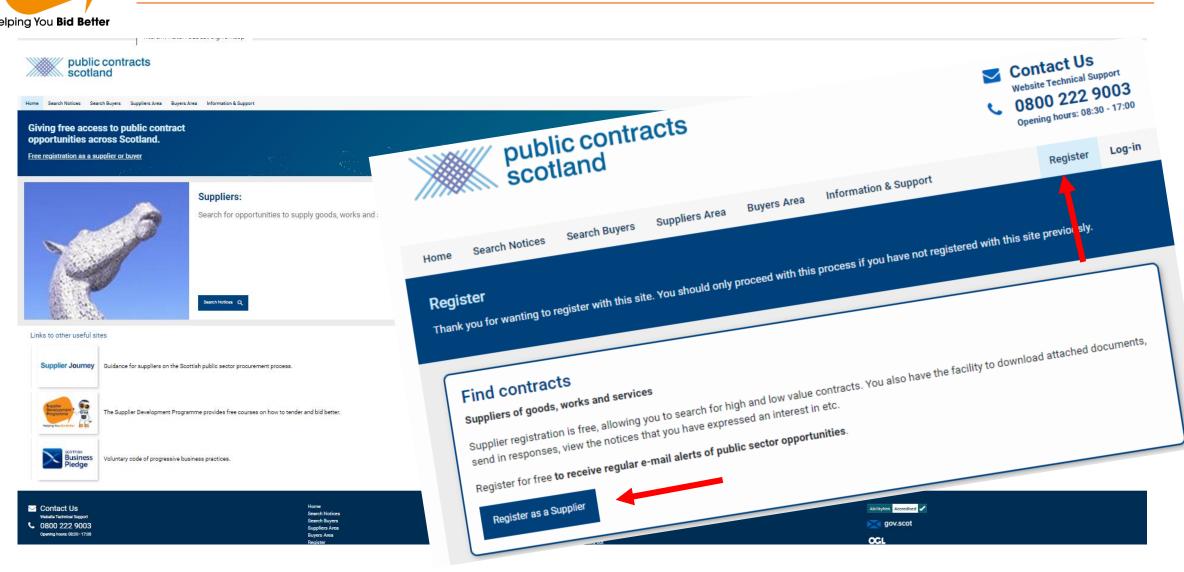
### Scottish Procurement



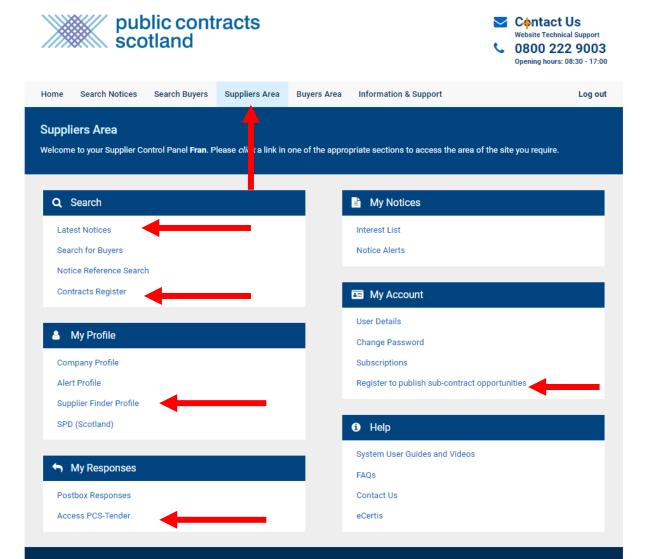
Scottish Model of Procurement









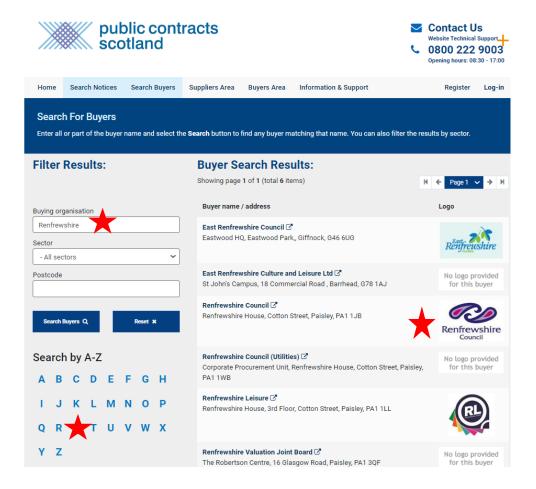


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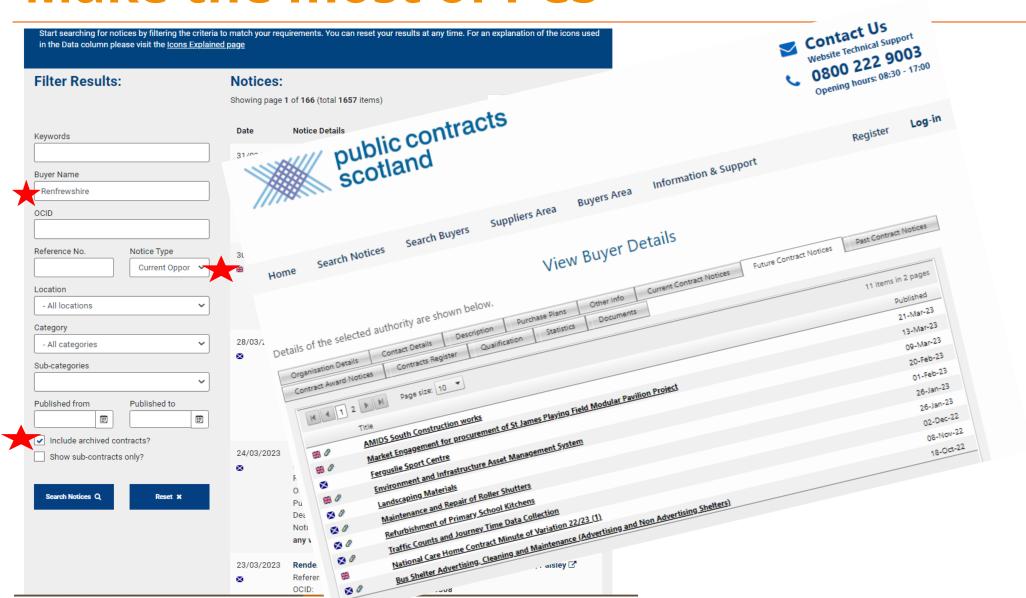


Start searching for notices by filtering the criteria to match your requirements. You can reset your results at any time. For an explanation of the icons used in the Data column please visit the Icons Explained page Filter Results: Notices: Showing page 1 of 166 (total 1657 items) H ← Page 1 ✓ → N Date **Notice Details** Keywords Provision of Technical Audits - Gas Maintenance & Installation 🗹 31/03/2023 Reference No: MAR475123 Buyer Name ocds-r6ebe6-0000727457 OCID: Renfrewshire Published By: East Renfrewshire Council Deadline Date: 28-Apr-23 OCID 02 Contract Notice (below GPA/OJEU threshold or call offs of Notice Type: any value) Notice Type Reference No. 30/03/2023 Energy Efficient Scotland ABS Funding Managing Agent 🗹 Current Oppo Reference No: MAR474982 OCID: ocds-r6ebe6-0000727454 Location Published By: Renfrewshire Council - All locations Deadline Date: 17-Apr-23 Notice Type: 02 Contract Notice Category Upgrade Works to Ventilation At OLM Primary School & St. Ninians High School 28/03/2023 - All categories ď Sub-categories Reference No: MAR474860 ocds-r6ebe6-0000727210 OCID: ~ Published By: East Renfrewshire Council Published from Published to Deadline Date: 25-Apr-23 02 Contract Notice (below GPA/OJEU threshold or call offs of Notice Type: ⊞  $\overline{}$ any value) ✓ Include archived contracts? Artificial Pitches Upgrades 2022/23 3G football pitch - Park Mains High School, 24/03/2023 Show sub-contracts only? Erskine 🗹 Reference No: MAR474524 OCID: ocds-r6ebe6-0000726228 Search Notices Q Reset X Renfrewshire Council Published By: Deadline Date: 20-Apr-23 02 Contract Notice (below GPA/OJEU threshold or call offs of Notice Type: any value) 23/03/2023 Render Improvement Works at Speirsfield Court & Camphill Court, Paisley 2 Reference No: MAR474487 OCID: ocds-r6ebe6-0000726808





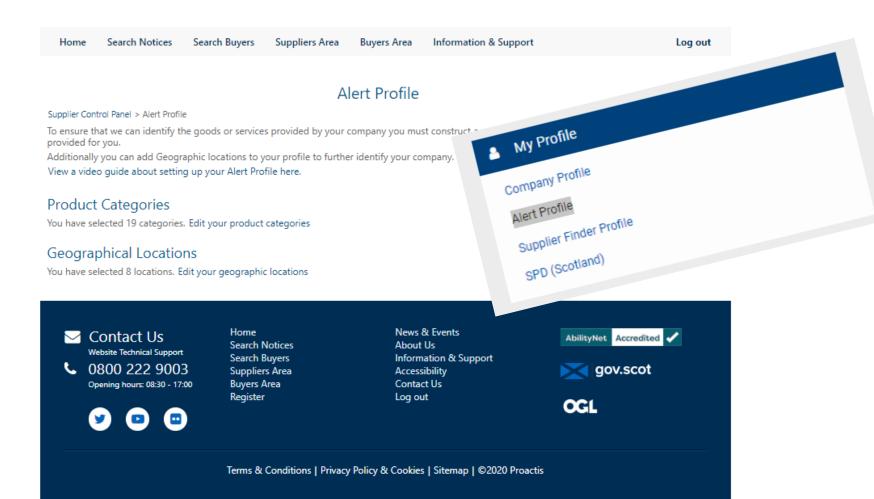














#### Supplier Finder Profile Details

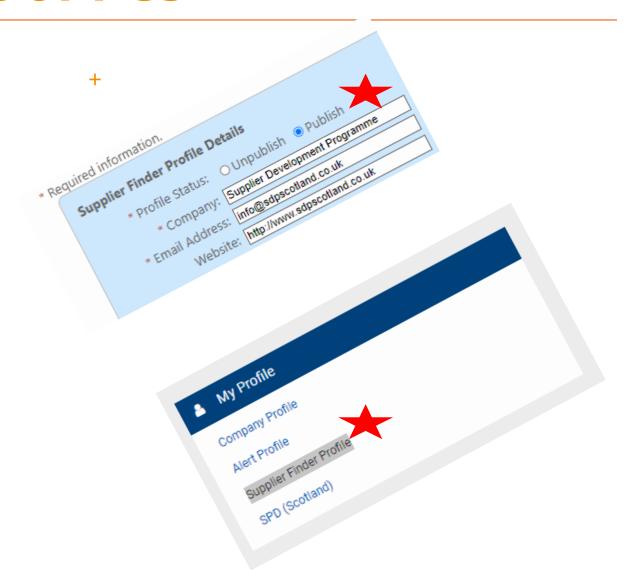
## What Is Supplier Finder? Supplier Finder is a supplier sourcing directory allowing you to advertise your company on the website. It allows you to provide detailed information regarding the products or services you provide. Some of the benefits you get from updating your profile include: Buyers can now easily find your company via the Supplier Finder search tool. You can provide keywords which specifically highlight the products or services provided by your company. These keywords are searchable. The service improves your chances of receiving a direct invitation to quoter from Buyers using "Quick Quote".

#### How Does Supplier Finder Work?

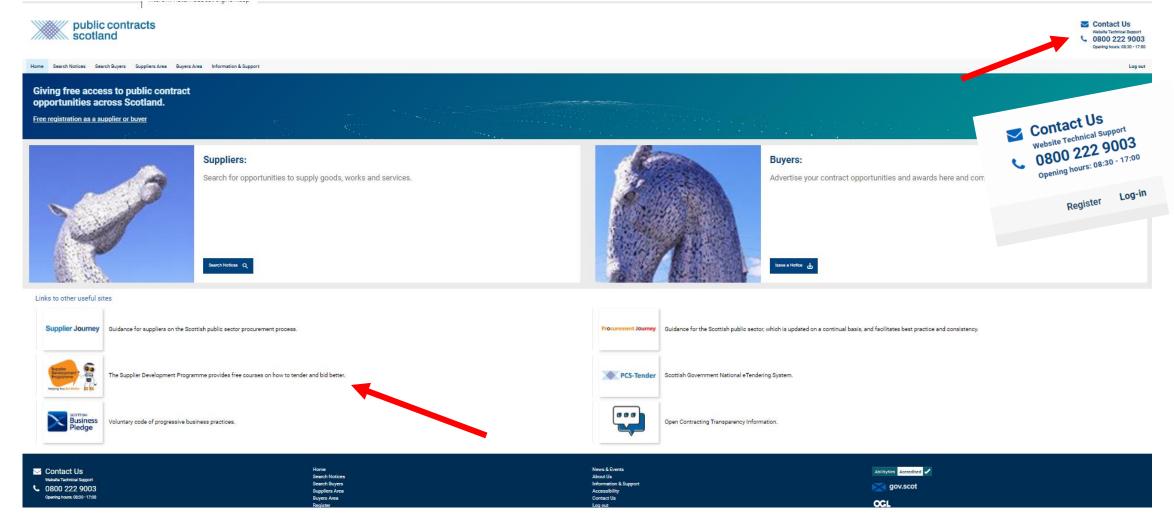
Please complete the form below to update your profile. You can edit and save your profile at any time, however it will not be visible until you set the status to **Publish** and save. You can hide your profile at any time by changing the status back to **Unpublish**.

Please regularly **Save** your work. If you don't click **Save** within 20 minutes the website will log you out for security purposes and text you entered may be lost.

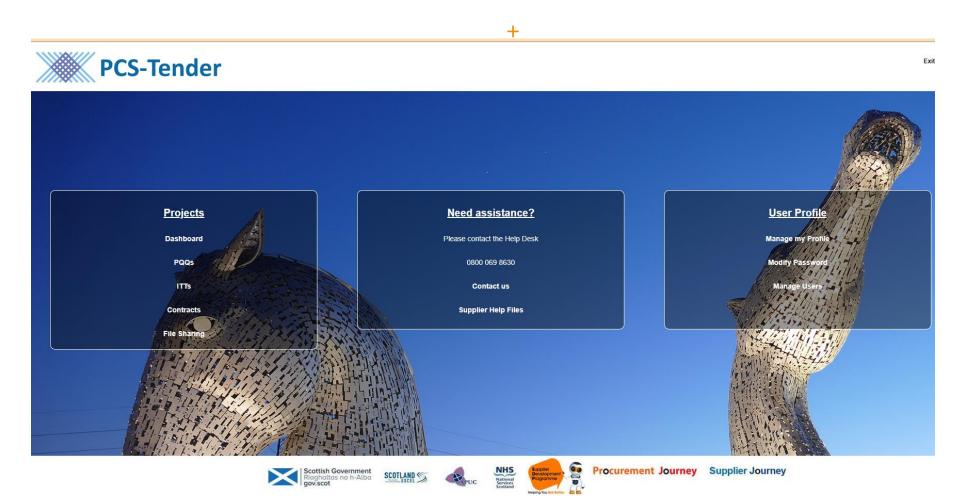
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				Dumfries and Galloway			
				Dundee City East Ayrshire			
				East Dunbartonshire			
				East Lothian East Renfrewshire			
				Edinburgh, City of Falkirk			
				Fife			
				Glasgow City Highland			
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				Midlothian Moray			
				North Ayrshire			
				North Lanarkshire Orkney Islands			
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	Description:	Events Calendar.					
		By assisting home grown SME's to become tender ready for public procurement, we improve all-round efficiency, sustainability and market potential, while improving prospects when competing for contracts					
		throughout the UK - which has a public sector spend of over £240 billion annually.					
		You have 3392 characters left					



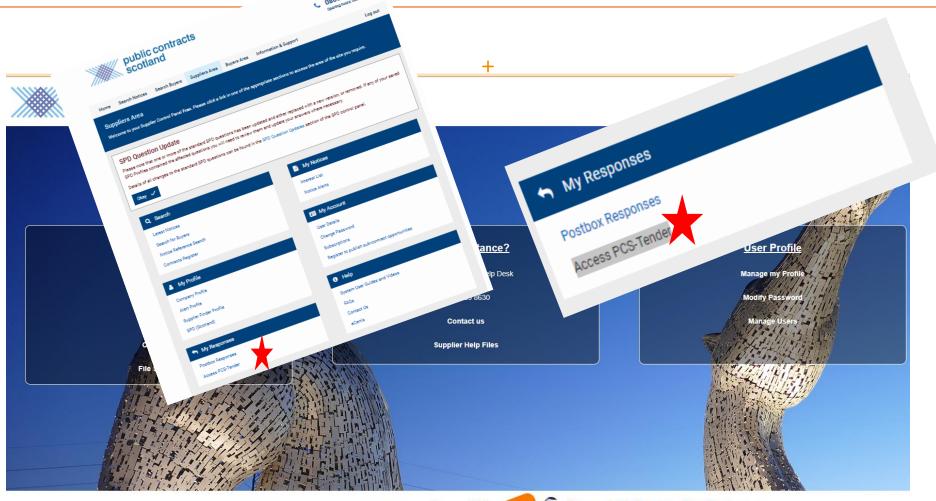
















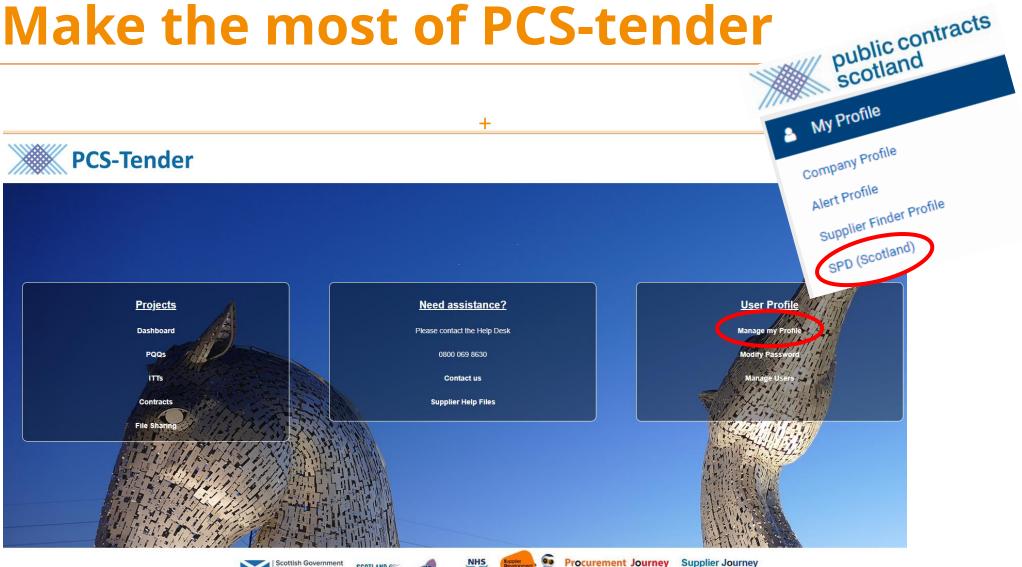








Make the most of PCS-tender







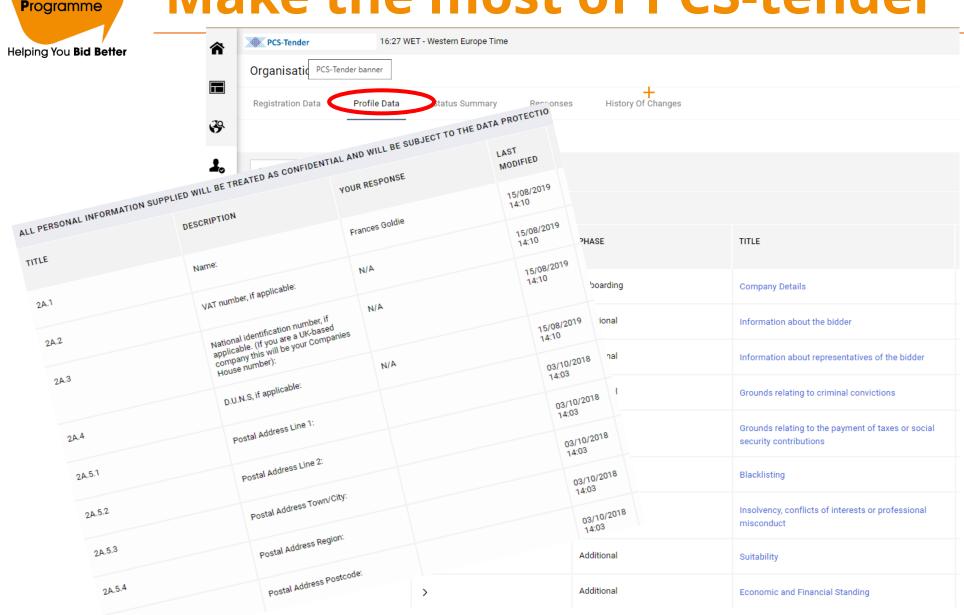








# Make the most of PCS-tender





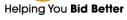
# **Get "Tender Ready"**



- Make sure you're ready to clearly explain what you do, how you do it & why your company is a good fit for the opportunity. Bang your drum!
- If you can't provide all the information then just explain why not, rather than leaving blanks.
- Follow the buyer's instructions to the letter.
- Don't fall into the trap of thinking that the person reading your bid knows anything about your company.
- Back up what you have said with evidence statistics, quotes from clients, awards and accreditations to add credibility to your bid.



# **Organise & prepare your tender content**





- VAT Number
- Company Registration Number
- Bank Account Numbers
- Credit Rating
- Insurance Certificates



- Process Flow Charts
- Work and Project Plans
- Method Statement
- Innovation Examples
- Project Implementation Plan



- KPIs
- Customer Complaints Process
- Customer Care Process
- Customer Feedback Examples
- Customer Communication



- References and Endorsements
- Awards and Achievements
- Case Studies
- Unique Selling Proposition
- Elevator Pitch



- Staff Information, Skills and CVs
- Organisation Diagram
- Recruitment Process
- Training Process
- Subcontractor Information



- ISO Certifications
- Health and Safety Policy
- Fair Work First Policy
- Environmental/Sustainability Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy



- Bid/No Bid decision matrix
- Market Intelligence
- Record of Tenders (won and lost)
- Feedback/Debriefs from Buyers
- Renewal Dates



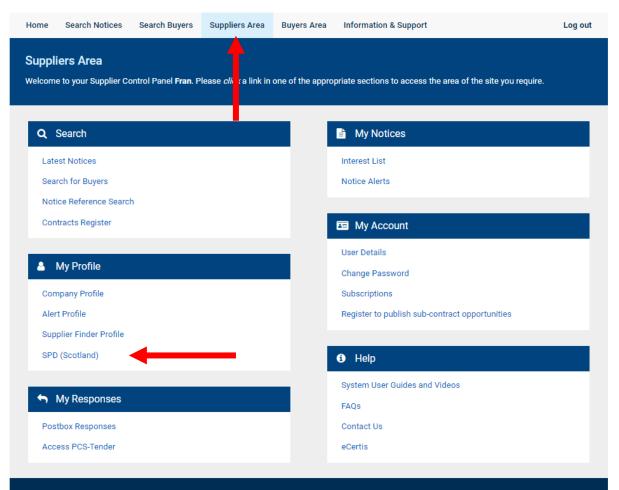
- IT/ICT Systems
- Data Security Systems
- Cyber Security Procurement Support Tool
- Financial Systems (elnvoicing)
- Business Continuity Plans



## Make the most of PCS



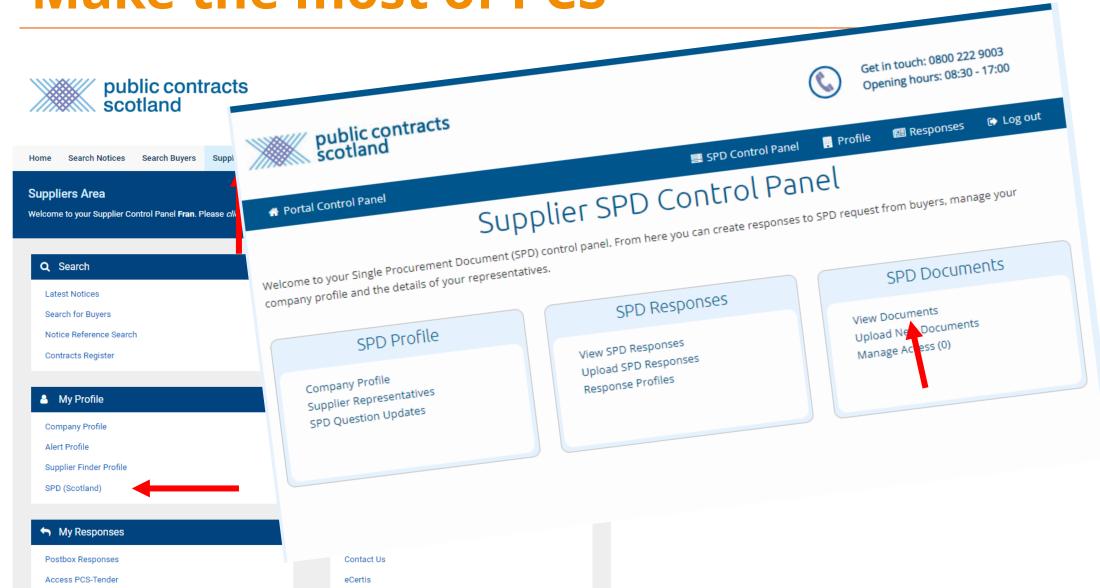




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# Make the most of PCS

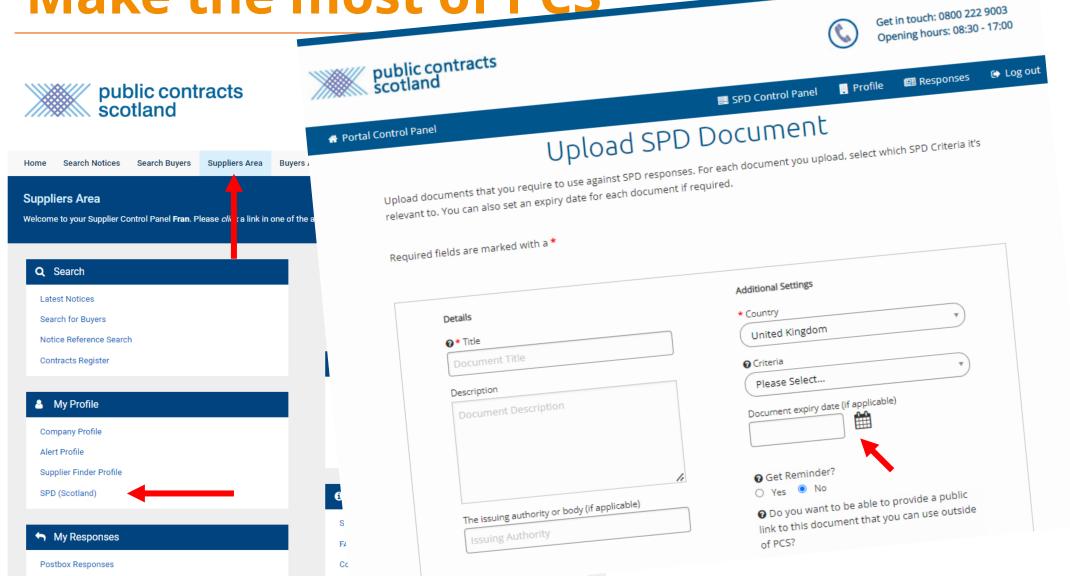




Access PCS-Tender

# Make the most of PCS

eC(





## **Bid Plan**

#### Write content for the buyer's **SPECIFIC** requirements

- Read ALL the documents (Notice, Specifications, T&Cs, Evaluation, Instructions in Invitation to Tender - ITT doc)
- Get your clarification questions in as soon as possible through PCS
- Watch out for buyer terminology and use it in your response
- Check the buyer's website for initiatives and priorities especially for Fair Work First, Net Zero, Community Benefits, etc. & weave these into all your answers

**Generic answers will lose you points!** 



# **Sustainability Policies in Tenders**

- FAIR WORK FIRST CRITERIA
- CIRCULAR ECONOMY
- NET ZERO RESPONSE TO CLIMATE EMERGENCY
- COMMUNITY BENEFITS
- Sustainability elements may be scored up to 15% of tender
  - What can YOU offer for THIS contract? Can it be measured?
     Method Statement for Delivery?
  - Proportionate to the size/type of your organisation
  - Make use of support organisations for sustainability

**Generic answers will lose you points!** 



# Scottish Enterprise new tools





# SDP eLearning Portal













# Courses – Level 1

## Level 1

For companies and social enterprises that have had little or no experience of tendering and would like to become 'tender ready'. This level is designed to help companies decide if tendering is for them and if so how to go about it.



1.1 Working with the Public Sector - All you need to know

1.2 Using Public Contracts
Scotland (PCS) - How to Find
and Bid for Opportunities

1.3 Getting Your Business Tender Ready – The Checklist

1.4 Planning Your Bid - Time and Resources

1.5 Pricing Your Tender – A
Sustainable Approach



# Courses – Level 2

## Level 2



For companies and social enterprises that have some experience of tendering with varying success but would like to become more proficient.

2.1 Passing the Selection Stage- The Single ProcurementDocument (SPD)

2.2 How to Write Outstanding
Tenders - The Invitation to
Tender (ITT) Stage

2.3 Understanding and Bidding
- Frameworks and Dynamic
Purchasing Systems (DPS)

2.4 Improving Your Bid Score - Increase Your Tender Win Rate

2.5 Responding to Tender
Policy Requirements - Power of
Procurement



# Courses – Level 3



## Level 3

For companies and social enterprises with plenty of experience and success of tendering. This level explores potential new markets (including overseas) and capacity building.

3.1 Understanding Your Role in Contract Management - Critical Success Factors

3.2 Expanding Your Business
Globally – Tendering in New
Markets



# **Dates for Your Diary**

Date & Time	Course title
Thursday 4 May 2023 1:30-3:00pm	2.3 Understanding and Bidding - Frameworks and Dynamic Purchasing Systems (DPS)
Tuesday 9 May 2023 1:30-3:00pm	2.4 Improving Your Bid Score - Increase Your Tender Win Rate
Tuesday 23th May 2023 2pm- 3:30pm	Quick Quotes Made Easy
Thursday 25 May 2023 1:30-3:00pm	2.5 Responding to Tender Policy Requirements - Power of Procurement
Tuesday 30 May 2023 1:30-3:00pm	3.1 Understanding Your Role in Contract Management – Critical Success Factors
Thursday 15 June 2023 1:30-3:00pm	1.1 Working with the Public Sector - All You Need to Know



# **Dates for Your Diary**

#### All events are free for Scottish SMEs:

www.sdpscotland.co.uk/events-training



Date & Time	Course title
Thursday 20 April 2023, 2:00-3:30pm	Talking Tenders with West Dunbartonshire Council Social Care Services - bidder information session
Thursday 11 May 2023, 2:00pm	Talking Tenders with West Dunbartonshire Council Social Care Services - aligned tender training
Wednesday 17 May 2023, 10:00am-4:00pm	Meet the Buyer 2023







## Fran Goldie – SDP Development Officer

www.sdpscotland.co.uk • info@sdpscotland.co.uk









# ADVICE re working together for a thriving Renfrews

# Local Business Support

Gary Kenyon
Senior Economic Development Officer
Renfrewshire Council







## Financial Support – Renfrewshire Business Grants

#### **Business Resilience Fund**

Financial assistance of up to £10,000 or 50% of project costs can help your business with:

- Business Innovation
- o ICT
- Exhibitions
- Tourism
- Feasibility Studies
- Property Expansion
- Capital Equipment













## Financial Support – Renfrewshire Business Grants

## **Renfrewshire Business Training Support**

- Financial support of up to £2,000
- New and additional skills into the business

#### **Net Zero Grant**

 Financial assistance of up to £10,000 to help businesses make changes to their business premises and operations to reduce their carbon footprint.













## **Financial Support - Loans**

#### **Restart Loan for Renfrewshire Businesses**

- Interest free loan of £1,000 to £5,000
- Repayable up to 3 years

#### **Business Loans Scotland**

- Loans from £25,000 to £100,000
- Loans up to £250,000 may be available in exceptional circumstances
- 6% interest rate will be fixed for the term of the loan













## **Workshops / Webinars**



#### Free business support workshops

April 2023

TUE 4th 6pm Effective Use of Social Media

TUE 11th 1.30pm How to develop a sustainability policy for your business

FRI 14th 9.30am Marketing Your Business

MON 17th 1.30pm Banking - why you should have a business account

FRI 28th 9.30am Trading Online

#### RENFREWSHIRE IDEAS TO BUSINESS PROGRAMME

WED 19th 6pm Ideas to get you started (1)

WED 26th 6pm How to get started (2)



To find out more, connect with us at: www.bgateway.com/renfrewshire or call 0141 530 2406







## **Expert Help for Renfrewshire Businesses**

# business gateway your gateway to business expertise

### **Local Expert Surgeries**

- > Finance
- ➤ Marketing
- > E-business / website development
- > Social Media
- > Tendering & Procurement

## **Local Expert Help**

- ➤ 1:1 consultancy
- ➤ Up to 3 days support
- To tackle a specific business issue





If you are interested in attending any of our surgeries or have a potential project please contact us on 0141 530 2406 or email: <a href="mailto:renfrewshire@bgateway.com">renfrewshire@bgateway.com</a>

## **Digital Boost**



Supporting local businesses to improve digital technologies



- ➤ Digital Health Check
- > Online tutorials
- Digital Guides
- ➤ Workshops
- ➤ 1:1 Digital Support
- ➤ Work with a Digital Boost Adviser for up to 21 hours

https://www.bgateway.com/resources/digitalboost



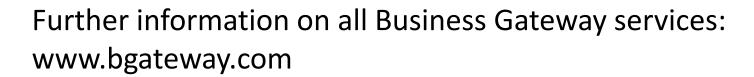


#### **Research Services**



#### Research and access to a number of relevant databases

- > latest insights on consumer attitudes
- > who are the key players in my sector
- > who are my competitors
- where can I find suppliers and partners?







## **Contact Details**

Telephone:

0141 530 2406

**Email:** 

renfrewshire@bgateway.com

#### **Websites**

www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/business-grants-and-loans

www.bgateway.com/local-offices/renfrewshire/local-support

www.bls.scot

www.findbusinesssupport.gov.scot







# Coming up next

Tea, Coffee and networking
Opportunity to speak to colleagues 1-2-1 at the pop up stands in the foyer

11.00-12.00

Main Hall (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)
Presentation and Q&A with Robertson Acom
Presntation and Q&A Morrisons Construction

Room 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Floor)

Drop-in PCS surgery with the SDP and Procurement



#### Find out more

All of the slides and key contacts from today's presentation will be shared on the following webpage <a href="https://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/13210/First-Steps-to-Bidding-for-Contracts-with-Renfrewshire-Council-event-on-18-April">https://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/13210/First-Steps-to-Bidding-for-Contracts-with-Renfrewshire-Council-event-on-18-April</a>

Help to shape future event by telling us what you think at:

https://forms.office.com/e/WFca9Zesuy

Did you know you could register for our free business and economy e-newsletter and other e-alerts at: <a href="https://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/e-alerts">www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/e-alerts</a>