



Commodity Updates

This document will give you an update on any new frameworks in place, or news on existing ones. Please note this is not the full list of available frameworks, just those where there is some news to report. For the full list of frameworks and for further information on any of those listed here, please visit [Hunter Buyers Portal](#).

The initials next to each framework indicate the LUPC Senior Category Manager you should contact for further information about a particular framework, these are as follows:

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Other useful contacts:

JISC	https://www.jisc.ac.uk/
TUCO	http://www.tuco.org/
TEC	http://www.tec.ac.uk/

Information correct as of 10 October 2025

AUDIO VISUAL

Audio Visual: Broadcasting Equipment and Integration Services - AVI3120 NW **MK**

Review meetings from Broadcasting framework will be held Late November. Dates are yet to be confirmed. Feedback survey to inform the meetings will be circulated late October to Early November for completion.

ESTATES

Estates & Facilities Management Services: maintenance and minor works, security (guarding & reception) and cleaning services – Regional – EFM5059 LU **JG**

LUPC Estates & Facilities Management Services Framework (EFM5059LU) — covering maintenance and minor works, security (guarding and reception), and cleaning services is set to expire in November 2025.

LUPC is in the process of restructuring the framework into two separate frameworks:

1. **Security and Cleaning Services**
2. **Maintenance Services**

The bundled lot from the current framework will be discontinued due to low usage, and **minor works** will be removed, pending future assessment for a potential dedicated tender covering both minor and major works.

Security and Cleaning Services Framework (EFM5105LU)

The Security and Cleaning Services Framework is currently at the evaluation stage following bid submissions received on 3 October 2025. This framework will replace Lots 2 and 3 of the existing framework (EFM5059LU).

The award of contract has been slightly delayed, with an estimated go-live date of 18 December 2025.

This framework will comprise three Lots:

- **Lot 1: Security** – Encompassing control of access to premises, visitor management, patrolling, emergency response, asset protection, crowd control, and health & safety compliance.
- **Lot 2: Cleaning** – Covering routine and deep cleaning, waste removal, pest control, feminine hygiene services, portage, and external/high-level window cleaning.
- **Lot 3: Security and Cleaning** – A combined lot integrating both services above.

Maintenance Services Framework

The Maintenance Services Framework will be tendered separately, with LUPC planning to launch this procurement in due course. This framework will cover:

- **Lot 1: Maintenance and Small Works Projects** – Including fabric maintenance (e.g., roofing, windows, doors, and internal finishes), small works projects (e.g., structural, mechanical, electrical, and safety compliance works), and external & grounds maintenance.
- **Lot 2: MEP Maintenance** – Covering mechanical systems (HVAC), electrical systems (power distribution, lighting, and wiring), and plumbing & water systems (supply, drainage, boilers, and sanitary systems).

Jisc Network Solutions Framework - Proc2719 JM

LUPC has launched its tender process for Estates Professional Services.

This consists of 8 Lots covering a variety of services such as Project Management, Architectural Services, Fire Safety Advisor services and Quantity Surveyor services.

The tender is currently at PSQ stage and is being reviewed for applicants.

LUPC have asked those who are applying for the tender to provide three examples of works they have carried out in the sector.

Once the responses have been reviewed LUPC will look to move the process on to ITP stage.

Lift Installation, maintenance and consultancy – National – EFM2051 NE JG

The Lifts Installation, Maintenance, and Consultancy Framework (EFM2051 NE) went live on **28 August 2025**, replacing **EFM2035 NE**.

The framework comprises of three Lots:

- **Lot 1:** Lift Service and Maintenance
- **Lot 2:** Installation and Modernisation of Goods and Passenger Lifts, Lifting Platforms, and Stairlifts
- **Lot 3:** Lift Consultancy Services

Full details are available to members on **Hunter**.

Sustainable Furniture Solutions – FFE2008 NE AR

In preparation for the conclusion of this framework, NWUPC are working on the tender documentation for this re – procurement.

ICT

ITS1049AP Academic Integrity and Assessment Management Systems MK

To date, launch webinars have been held with Inspira and Uniwise. A webinar will be held with Tomax Think Academy in October.

Computing - Data Centre Management Equipment and Infrastructure – National – ITS2009 NE MK

Sudlows returned a low credit rating on a routine Creditsafe report. NEUPC contacted Sudlows for an explanation, which the Company helpfully provided in the form of recent accounts and dialogue fully explaining the background to the rating, being the resolution of a legacy item, which now allows Sudlows to focus on business growth, new clients and projects to build toward a successful future. In addition, Sudlows provided NEUPC with up-to-date management accounts, end of year forecasts and order book information

Current supplier Keysource will officially become part of Salute from November 2025. The change is largely a rebrand, not a restructure and day-to-day contacts, services, and support all remain the same. Existing email addresses will by mid-November, change to *@salute.com*, while the Keysource.co.uk domain will transition to salute.com

Computing- Desktop and Notebook Agreement - National ('NDNA') – ITS5071 LU MK

framework price lists and buyers' guides for each route to market continue to be added to Hunter on a regular basis. Management information for the period ending Q4 2024/5 was delayed due to missing models on Dell's report, which is being re-run and should be available very shortly. Several members from the NDNA group will be meeting the suppliers on 15 & 16 October at Lenovo's UK HQ in Farnborough, which will include product demonstrations.

The year four extension process has been completed albeit, for each OEM this is contingent on the provision of updated Electronics Watch factory disclosure information by 31 October against NDNA-specific templates supplied back in June. This has been received from HP and remains outstanding from the other three as of 8 October.

A comprehensive NDNA Pre-Review and Tender Questionnaire was issued in early September to all regional computing groups with the working party and suppliers engaged in providing feedback on any changes from the last pre-tender exercise in 2021. Changes included thoughts on a reseller-led multi-vendor solution lot under a two-stage process with successful, vendor-nominated resellers. LUPC plans to discuss potential strategies with external experts in the short-term to ensure the successor framework remains as competitive as possible while considering additional flexibility for those not wishing to engage the market through a full further competition process.

Discussions around onboarding two new resellers continue. The final version of the Dell via SCC Buyers Guide has been approved with the proposed Price List the only outstanding action before commencement. Softcat are still working on their Lenovo via Softcat Buyers Guide, price list and completing the applicable tender schedules, together with their press release (all necessary templates and exemplars provided).

Various Dell XCTO new builds remain populated incorrectly as minimum Pro Support with contractual 3-yr Basic Warranty hidden. This was meant to be corrected by early September however after re-running the benchmarking, certain models remain impacted. The uplift cost to Pro Support can be considerable, particularly in the context that both HP and Lenovo offer premium, high-level support in the box under NDNA.

Excel queries for each OEM were run tabulating the largest downward variances between the 23/4 and 24/5 spend, the information then shared for discussion and feedback with the manufacturers, which is progressing well.

Stone/Converge are running a project to scope out a revised/refreshed e-commerce customer portal with the next iteration of NDNA in mind.

Computing – General Matters not covered elsewhere MK

The National ICT Group (NICT) continues to meet every 4-5 weeks to discuss matters arising across the 25-plus ICT frameworks, potential future collaboration and present IT procurement-related issues within the sector. The last meeting was held 30 September with the next now arranged for 6 November. A member of the JCG (Joint Contracting Group) is regularly invited to attend.

APUC is tendering for Student Placement Software. The teaching profession will act as a “vanguard” specification. The user group is made of Higher Education Institutions and Local Authorities, and a resultant framework will be put in place to allow institutions to explore rationalisation opportunities.

Computing - High Performance Computing (HPC) National - ITS4062 SU MK

The new Framework for High Performance Computing commenced 1 September 2025 with an expiry date of 31 August 2027, with the option of 2 x 12-month extensions. Please note that the framework has launched with five suppliers, with Hitachi and Supermicro still in the process of finalising their contracts. The suppliers in order of ranking are:

Dell Corporation
HPE
XMA Limited
Supermicro Inc
Lenovo
Eviden
Hitachi

Call-off from the Framework is by means of direct award (ranking), desktop evaluation or further competition.

SUPC hosted a framework launch webinar on Wednesday 1 October with the session recorded for those unable to attend live.

Computing - National Education Printer Agreement 3 ('NEPA3') - ITS2011 NE MK

Requests for supply chain factory location details have been issued to OEMs (electronics watch terms).

Docex 360 is now on the framework as a reseller on Lot 2 for Epson.

Computing - Networking Supply & Services ('HENSS2') - National - ITS2008 NE MK

Existing supplier ITGL Limited has changed its name to Conscia Group UK Ltd as part of a unification with ISN under the broader Conscia brand, effective from 1 October 2025. This integration under the Danish tech multinational Conscia aims to strengthen its UK presence and expand its digital, cyber security, and IT infrastructure services.

Work is commencing on the replacement framework (HENSS3), any Institutions wishing to be involved in the re-procurement please contact [Paul Eagleton](#) whereupon further comms will be issued.

Computing - Online Streaming and Online Training Services - ITS1035 AP MK

The current framework has been extended until the 31 December 2025, to enable APUC to complete the tender process for the new Framework.

The following suppliers have agreed to the extension

Lot 1 Academic Content

- Clickview Ltd
- Henry Stewart Talks Ltd
- Kanopy Inc

Lot 2 Film Content

- Clickview Ltd
- Kanopy Inc

Lot 3 Television Recordings

- Clickview Ltd

Lot 4 Training Platform

- QA Ltd
- Udemy Inc

LinkedIn and Learning On Screen are no longer available via the current framework.

The replacement tender will be divided into three lots (see below) and issued in October with a target of completion in December. APUC would welcome volunteers to participate in the technical evaluation.

Online Training

Online Streaming

Lecture Capture/Integrated Video

Computing - PCs with Apple Operating Systems - National - ITS3028 NW (NEW) MK

The new Apple Framework (ITS3028 NW) has been successfully retendered and commenced 18 September. All supporting documentation is accessible on Hunter for Member use. The supply base remains largely unchanged however, Albion Computers was unsuccessful in the retender. There is one new supplier to the framework, KRCS Group Ltd.

All suppliers appointed to the framework are Apple Premium Education Partners (APEP), formerly known as Apple Authorised Education Specialists (AAES). The framework continues to allow staff and students of Members to make individual purchases. Implementation meetings have been scheduled for the week commencing 20 October. The previous Apple framework (ITS6004 HW) will expire on 31 October 2025.

Software License Resellers (SLRA) – National – ITS4042 SU MK

The current SLRA framework is being extended to end of January 2026 to allow for the tender process to be finalised, which has taken longer than anticipated due to team member sickness absence and protracted commercial clarifications. The further extension, which was communicated to the LUPC ICT Group on 8 October, should allow sufficient time for members to undertake any further competitions under the current framework.

Computing - Student Accommodation, Conference/Event, Delivered Catering & Hotel Management System(s) & Associated Services - ITS1051 AP MK

Kinetic is a key supplier on this framework. APUC has now added Celcat timetabling software as a product for purchase under Lot 5 (Multi-Functional Systems) of the framework.

Computing - Student Information Systems and Associated Services ITS1050 AP MK

APUC has been supporting institutions through the contracting process for HEFS. A mop up session will be held with Tribal and a further review in collaboration with UCISA. Ellucian has updated the product catalogue, and a full review of additional products and services is underway. An updated catalogue will be published on Hunter shortly.

Computing - Innovative, Value-Adding VLE System(s) and Associated Services - ITS1065 AP MK

Lot 1 of the new VLE Systems framework was awarded in July 2025 and is now fully available to all APUC and UKUPC Institutions. This latest framework provides comprehensive coverage of the marketplace. Major implementation savings can be acquired by Institutions planning to move to the top ranked suppliers on each Lot.

The suppliers in order of ranking are:

Lot 1 – Proprietary VLE Systems

- D2L Europe (Brightspace VLE)
- Instructure Global Limited (Canvas VLE)
- Learning Technologies Group (Open LMS VLE)
- One further award pending.

Lot 2 – Moodle VLE Services

A strong market response has been received and evaluated. This is currently in standstill until midnight, 2 October. Up to six suppliers may be awarded to this Lot2.

Call-off options include Direct Award, Mini-competition and Desktop Evaluation.

All Buyers Guide documents, including savings details, for the framework are available on the [Hunter Buyers Portal](#); for further information please contact [Peter Jackson](#)

Computing - IT Equipment Reuse Recycling and Disposal – National – ITS3082 NW MK

The options appraisal paper was circulated during the summer, identifying the preferred option as incorporating a dedicated ITAD lot within the LUPC Waste Management framework. As the LUPC Waste framework is not due for renewal until 2027, the current NWUPC framework will be extended until that date to ensure continuity of service. All three suppliers have informally agreed to both the extension and its duration, with formal extension letters yet to be issued for signature.

INSURANCE

Insurance – Regional MK

The ITSG continues to meet monthly with representatives from both Gallagher and RMP with the last meeting held 24 September and the next scheduled for 22 October.

The tender for the new Financial Lines framework, which was undertaken via a two-stage competitive flexible procedure, successfully commenced 1 August with AJG Special Risks, RMP and Zurich Municipal awarded across the three Lots. The Group's Welcome Pack has been revised to include the contact details for all parties. A full tender evaluation report is available to all IG members on request.

Gallagher will be hosting a LUPC Technical Webinar on 4 November with several topics including an overview of AIG, its participation in the HE sector and broader risk appetite, Business Interruption Risk & Resilience Review (Overview and Case Studies), Risk Management Frameworks – Why do they fail, The Legal Risk Landscape, Crisis Management in the HE Sector, and a Cyber Market Update.

The updated 2026 Renewal Timetable has been issued in collaboration by Gallagher for comment. Annual Service reviews have been scheduled for London on 2 December and with a suitably updated questionnaire out to the membership for response by 17 November.

LUPC will be attending the Northern Universities Insurance Group (NUIG) Conference near Leeds on 12 & 13 November as guests of NUIG to assist some of their members on successfully undertaking procurements within the commercial insurance sector. The Conference will also be an opportunity to potentially position UMAL ahead of the main insurance programme tender in early 2027. Sessions topics include Medical Malpractice / Clinical Negligence Exposures to Universities, How do the financial difficulties that Universities are facing impact insurers perception of the risk?, Recent university sector legal Issues, University comparisons as to how Risk Management, Insurance, BCP, Resilience and Incident Management are structured, Governance and Regulatory risk issues impacting the HE sector and the Insurance and Risk Transfer solutions available, AI - where are we and an open panel discussion.

LABORATORY/STEMED

3D Printers, 3D Scanners and Associated Equipment – LAB1023 AP **AR**

The next iteration of this framework is currently being evaluated, and is scheduled to go live on 10th January 2026.

Lab Gases (IUPC) – National – LAB4060 SU **AR**

The tender is currently at award stage, planned to go live as schedule on 1st November 2025.

Mass Spectrometry and Chromatography Equipment – LAB1029 AP **AR**

Work on the replacement Mass Spectrometry and Chromatography Equipment framework is underway, with the new framework scheduled to go live on 1st of May 2026.

APUC is currently recruiting TWP members. LUPC is the highest spending consortium on this framework and subject matter experts would be greatly valued.

APUC has accepted some of the framework suppliers' pricing reviews. Following the Price Review process, some of the suppliers have been re ranked, where relevant.

Medical Simulation & Training Equipment – LAB3032 NW **AR**

The Medical Solutions Framework went live on the 1st of August 2025. The framework is open to APUC, CPC, HEPCW, LUPC, NEUPC, NWUPC, and SUPC.

Laboratory – Microscopy and Imaging Equipment – LAB1028 AP AR

This framework was extended only to the 31st of December 2025 in order to accommodate the tendering and award of its replacement framework, to ensure a compliant route to market for members.

The tendering for its replacement framework (LAB1035 AP) is continuing and in the final Evaluation stages, with a target Go Live date of the 1st of December 2025.

LIBRARY

Books, e-books and associated services – Inter-regional Agreement – LIB4061 SU RD

SUPC has launched the new framework to replace LIB4044 SU. Tendered under the PCR2015 regulations this provides members with access to eighteen suppliers across nine lots. For full details of each lot download the [quick reference guide](#).

OFFICE

Print Solutions (DPS) – PRI3173 NW RD

NWUPC have formally extended this framework by one year to September 2026.

Carbon Offsetting and Validation Services – REF PFB5078 LU JM

The Framework has been extended and LUPC will be looking at options around re-tendering in the coming 6 months. Please get in touch if this is of interest to your organisation to share ideas and feedback.

Executive and Senior Strategic Search and Recruitment Services – PFB1037 AP RD

APUC is now in the early stages of retendering this framework. Members who wish to input to the UIG/TWP process or wish to discuss the future of executive recruitment should contact Roy Dennis. Please note that the new TAP framework (lot 4 of PFB4054 SU provides for Executive/Senior Leadership Roles).

Global Mobility Services – PFB3160 NW RD

NWUPC have launched this new framework to replace PFB3135 NW. This provides access to ten suppliers across three lots and helps members and their Global Employees with the necessary advice, support, assessment, and management to fulfil a legally compliant route for international global workforce movement requirements. Further details of lots and scope can be found in the [quick reference guide](#).

Legal Services PA23 – PFB5088 LU RD

This framework replaces PFB5069 LU. Tendered under the PA23 regulations as light touch services the framework provides members with a more law firms and greater flexibility when awarding. The quick reference guide will be available to members shortly.

Recruitment Services – PFB4054 SU RD

SUPC have replaced PFB4037 SU with a new framework providing members with access to 38 recruitment specialists across seven lots. Further details of the lots and services can be found on the [Quick Reference Guide](#).