



UK Atomic  
Energy  
Authority

# SUPPLIER INFORMATION



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# 01

## Commercial activity at UKAEA

UKAEA's commercial function is responsible for effective and efficient management of external expenditure, commercial agreements and development of a dynamic supply chain that meets current and future needs.

The vision is to enhance the commercial capabilities of UKAEA, resulting in positive outcomes and delivering a supply chain fit for the future and the realisation of fusion. Commercial activity plays a vital role in delivering our mission:

***To lead the development of sustainable fusion energy to maximise scientific and UK economic benefit.***

### PURPOSE

From forging strategic partnerships to running compliant, value-driven procurements, the commercial function enable UKAEA's programmes to move from innovation to real-world delivery.

The team acts in line with public procurement regulations, professionally demonstrating the core principles of:

- Delivering value for money: ensuring a mix of economy, efficiency and effectiveness while considering the community it serves
- Maximising public benefit: considering social value and environmental benefits
- Sharing information: embedding a 'transparency by default' approach
- Integrity: executing good management and control of processes, preventing misconduct, fraud and corruption and gaining trust
- Equal treatment: treating all suppliers in the same way, preventing unfair advantage or disadvantage
- Having regard to small and medium enterprises: considering requirements from the perspective of a small/medium enterprise and reducing disproportionately burdensome processes



## HOW WE WORK

Our Commercial team supports the **entire lifecycle of commercial activity**, including:

- Pre-procurement strategy
- Collaborative agreements, non-disclosure agreements (NDAs), memorandums of understanding (MoUs), fellowships and studentships
- Procurement execution and contract management
- Supplier relationship management (SRM)
- Post-award support and commercial delivery

They work across all UKAEA programmes to provide tailored, compliant, and efficient commercial solutions.

## Working with UK Fusion Energy

UK Fusion Energy Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of UKAEA which brings together industry, government and world-leading research to deliver STEP Fusion - the UK's prototype fusion energy plant at West Burton. As the whole plant integrator, they are creating one of the most significant industrial opportunities of our time, with a diverse and growing supply chain at its heart.

UKFE are committed to ensuring that the benefits of STEP Fusion are felt first and foremost in the East Midlands, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire regions. The priority is to create opportunities for local and regional suppliers, before expanding more widely across the UK. By building capability in the surrounding area and strengthening the national industrial base, UKFE aims to support long-term economic growth alongside the delivery of fusion energy.

As the programme develops, opportunities will expand from core engineering and construction into specialist systems and broader strategic supply chain partnerships.

### How to work with UKFE

The first step to working with UKFE is simple: register on the procurement portal. This is where current & upcoming opportunities are published, providing a transparent and accessible route into the programme for suppliers. The portal has been designed to reduce barriers and open up participation to a broad and diverse range of organisations. Additionally, you can stay connected through their supply chain engagement activity. STEP Fusion regularly hosts events where potential suppliers can learn more about the programme, understand future requirements and build valuable relationships. These events are promoted via LinkedIn channels and directly to those who sign up for updates, ensuring you have the latest information on how to get involved.

Collaboration is central to UKFE's approach. Delivering STEP Fusion will require the combined expertise of partners across the industry, and they are committed to building a strong, innovative supply chain that helps position the UK as a global leader in fusion energy.

Find out about the latest opportunities on the procurement portal and sign up for updates below.

**W:** [UKFE STEP fusion](#)



## Structured for impact: our commercial pillars

To meet the unique needs of each programme, the Commercial team is structured around dedicated pillars, ensuring expert, focused support across UKAEA's portfolio.

### FUSION PARTNER OFFICE

The Fusion Partner for delivery of the UK Fusion Energy STEP Programme - a programme for the design and build, by 2040, of a UK prototype fusion energy plant capable of delivering net-energy to the grid.

### LIBRTI, BLANKETS, RESEARCH & MATERIALS

Powering innovation in tritium breeding and fuel cycle development through strategic contracts and collaborations.

**W:** [LIBRTI Programme](#)

### FOSTER SKILLS PROGRAMME

Commercially enabling the growth of the fusion workforce through education, training, and research procurement.

### FUSION FUTURES INDUSTRY CAPABILITY

Building UK industrial strength to lead in the commercialisation and operation of fusion technologies.

### FUSION TECHNOLOGY

Delivers fusion research through specialist facilities and partnerships, developing components, integrated designs and tritium solutions, including the H3AT facility, through strategic contracts and collaborations to support tritium recovery for fusion.

### H3AT TRITIUM LOOP FACILITY

Successfully managing tritium and fusion fuel will be critical for fusion power plants of the future. It is therefore essential that efficient and comprehensive processes are in place to recover tritium for it to be reused as fuel within a tokamak, through strategic contracts and collaborations.

**ROBOTICS, REPURPOSING & DECOMMISSIONING (RACE & JDR)**

Supporting robotic innovation and strategic procurement for JET decommissioning and future plant repurposing.

**RAiCO**

Enabling cutting-edge AI and robotics technologies to transform nuclear decommissioning operations in partnership with NDA, Sellafield Ltd, and academia.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CATEGORY SUPPORTS**

Delivering procurement support across HR, finance, ICT, and marketing, using frameworks and MAT (Most Advantageous Tender) criteria under the Procurement Act 2023.

**CONSTRUCTION & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENTS SUPPORTS**

Strategic support for major capital works, building upgrades, the AI Growth Zone, and site-wide development.

**FACILITIES MANAGEMENT & ENGINEERING SUPPORTS**

Supporting internal and external stakeholders with commercial procurement for facilities and engineering.

**GOVERNANCE & SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT**

Ensuring procurement compliance, policy development, and alignment with Government Functional Standards and the Procurement Act 2023.

**SUPPLY CHAIN**

Developing a resilient and diverse supply chain that delivers meaningful social, economic and environmental value - powered by sustainable sourcing, supplier relationship management, market engagement, and community-focused initiatives.

**03 Market engagement: building stronger partnerships**



At UKAEA, **market engagement** is seen as essential to delivering fusion energy and maximising economic value. That's why we engage with suppliers **before, during, and after** the procurement process –building long-term, collaborative relationships across the supply chain.

**WHY IT MATTERS**

Market engagement helps us:

- Understand capabilities & market trends
- Identify challenges & drive innovation
- Promote social value and sustainability
- Raise awareness of fusion opportunities

**STAY CONNECTED**

- Join our **supplier mailing list**
- Register for the **Fusion Energy Industry Directory**
- Connect via our **LinkedIn Supplier Network**
- Monitor our **procurement portals** for updates

**HOW WE ENGAGE**

- Market engagement webinars
- Programme-specific supplier days
- Annual UKAEA Suppliers' Events
- Industry partner events

**WHAT SUPPLIERS GAIN**

- Early visibility of upcoming opportunities
- A chance to shape solutions and collaborate
- Direct insight into procurement priorities



#### HOW CAN I WORK WITH UKAEA?

All UKAEA tenders are published through [EU Supply](#) to the [Find a Tender Service \(FTS\)](#). We ask all our suppliers to register on FTS before applying for opportunities. Suppliers can then set up alerts based off Common Procurement Vocabulary (CPV) codes to be notified when tenders are published under these codes. Suppliers can also see planned work on the [UKAEA Procurement Pipeline](#) which is reviewed and updated on a quarterly basis.

#### WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO ME?

For more information on resources, please see our [Procurement Page](#) on GOV.UK. Alternatively, see our Useful Links segment below.

#### WHAT SUPPORT IS THERE FOR SMES?

UKAEA is currently rolling out an SME Action Plan. For more information on our SME Action Plan, please see our "Upcoming SME Activity" article in our May newsletter [here](#). Early activities introduced include bi-monthly SME Surgery sessions which you can find more information on [here](#), as well as an annual SME Showcase Event, with the pilot event taking place in September 2025.

#### HOW TO BE INFORMED OF ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES?

To keep up to date with upcoming suppliers' events and activities, you can register for email updates via our **Supplier Mailing list** [ukaeaevents.com/uk-fusion-suppliers-events](https://ukaeaevents.com/uk-fusion-suppliers-events). Our suppliers' events are a fantastic opportunity for networking and engagement! UKAEA have a suite of events held throughout the calendar year to continue engaging with the supply chain and providing regular updates.

# 05 Useful links

[EU Supply](#)

[Find a Tender](#)

[UKAEA's Procurement Pipeline](#)

[Procurement Gov Page](#)

[Supplier Mailing List](#)

[LinkedIn Supplier's Network Group](#)

[SME Surgery Information / Registration Page](#)

[Fusion Energy Industry Directory](#)

[UKFE STEP Fusion](#)

[UKAEA Strategy 2026 - 2030](#)



The UK Atomic Energy Authority's mission is to lead the delivery of sustainable fusion energy and maximise scientific and economic benefit



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Find out more  
[www.gov.uk/ukaea](http://www.gov.uk/ukaea)

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