

# LIB4054 SU

Serials, periodicals, and associated services (print and digital)

Contracting Authority SUPC

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## Key Information

Framework Start Date 01/08/2023

Current End Date 31/07/2025

## Framework Suppliers

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EBSCO International Inc.  
Otto Harrassowitz GmbH & Co. KG  
Prenax Ltd.

## Scope of Requirements

This Agreement is for the supply of electronic and printed serials, journals and associated subscription services via subscription agents (intermediaries), including domestic and overseas materials from any publisher or 3rd party willing to trade via the Suppliers on this Agreement. A copy of the specification used in the framework tender process can be found on Hunter.

Associated services must support and relate to the supply and management of electronic and/or printed subscription resources and may include (but not be limited to) services relating to usage data and improving value for money.

## Accessibility

This framework agreement is for subscription agent services rather than serials, periodicals or journals themselves. Therefore no accessibility requirements exist beyond standard legislation.

## Call Off Method

There are several ways to call-off from this agreement:

### 1. Direct award

A direct award to any supplier named on the Lot is permitted. If not awarding to the top-scoring supplier then due diligence and objective justification for the decision should be recorded internally.

### 2. Conduct a desktop exercise

Institutions may use a desktop calculator to amend any criterion by up to 20 percentage points to reflect their local requirements. This tool is available on Hunter and, based on the institution amended weightings, will then recalculate the total overall score. Once complete, you should place your contract with the highest scoring supplier.

### 3. Further competition

Institutions wishing to undertake a further-competition may do so. All the supplier(s) appointed must be invited to submit responses to the institution's further-competition tender document.

You can find further guidance to calling off in the Buyer's Guide.

### Responsible Procurement

Responsible Procurement formed 10% of the framework score with tender questions focussed on:  
Environmental Sustainability  
Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion  
Social Value

### Added Value

Robust tendering and evaluation process which has tested the Supplier capabilities to meet an agreed minimum set of requirements on behalf of participating consortia

Transparent pricing and a pricing structure with competitive handling charges / discounts fixed for the duration of the agreement, with options for annual pricing reviews to allow supplier pricing to flex with ongoing and significant market changes. This flexibility will aid the sector in managing potential risks both for Members and the supply market

Standard favourable Call-Off terms and conditions applicable to all Members, with document templates available for easy contract execution

Agreed minimum Key Performance Indicators with all Suppliers, which can be adopted by each individual member institution, or can be adapted as necessary for specific requirements

Robust Joint Consortia Agreement Management structure which ensures support and escalation points for both member institutions and suppliers

For further information, please refer to the [Buyers Guide](#)

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