Weekly shortlist

Production opportunities

This edition covers Liverpool's creative-services framework and NWS's production contract, plus a government supplier-registration route.

Opportunity	Published value	Deadline / first check
Liverpool City Council Creative services, Lot 2 Details: page 2	£300,000 excl. VAT Lot estimate; values may be shared.	**20 Nov, noon** Questions close **4 Nov, noon**. Can you cover the wider design and branding scope?
Nuclear Waste Services Production contract Details: pages 3-4	£500,000 excl. VAT Estimated contract value.	**Plan for 23 Nov, 10am** Portal lists 24 Nov; ITT and notice say 23 Nov. Check facilities, insurance and financial requirements first.

This week's priorities

1. Liverpool: obtain the Lot 2 pack now. Ask about a production-specialist or partner bid before questions close on 4 November. The scope includes graphic design and branding as well as video and animation.

2. NWS: make the eligibility check before drafting. Public liability cover is £10m; three other insurance categories are £5m each. The turnover assessment still has an open clarification. The response plan and price conditions are on pages 3-4.

Also open: Communications Marketplace, RM6124

Supplier registration | Open until 23 February 2029 | Free to register

Government Commercial Agency's DPS covers production and creative development. Buyers filter agencies by capabilities, audience and delivery location before inviting them to competitions.

Suggested action: if your studio wants government production work, review the agency requirements and apply with the services and regions you can cover. If already appointed, check that your service profile reflects your current capability.

RM6124 agreement, agency requirements and joining route

All times in this edition are UK time. Sources checked on 3 November 2026.

01 / Framework application / DN820164

Liverpool City Council Creative services, Lot 2

Estimated Lot 2 value	Bid deadline
£300,000 excl. VAT	**20 November, noon**
Values may be shared across lots.	Questions: 4 November, noon.

The work

Lot 2 covers video, animation, motion graphics, photography and social content alongside graphic design, visual identity and campaign concepts. Outputs must be accessible and follow council branding.

Where a studio fits

A studio with design and campaign capability matches the wider scope. If your specialism is filming or animation, ask whether a named partner can cover the other services.

How the framework works

Evaluation	80% quality / 20% price. Pricing is submitted against the schedule for the relevant lot.
Term and location	4 February 2027 to 3 February 2035; Merseyside.
Later commissions	Direct awards or mini-competitions. Liverpool City Council is the purchasing authority.
Supplier places and fee	The notice lists unlimited suppliers and a maximum supplier fee of 0%. SME and VCSE suitability is stated.

Questions worth sending before 4 November

Coverage: can a production specialist bid for Lot 2 with named design or branding partners, and which services must the lead supplier provide?

Evidence: which portfolio examples, financial thresholds and insurance levels apply to Lot 2, and what are its response limits?

Workload: what production demand is expected within Lot 2, and how will shared lot values affect individual commissions?

Get the pack

Log in to ProContract and register interest in **DN820164**. Obtain the Lot 2 specification, pricing schedule and selection questions.

Official notice: Lot 2, framework operation and submission
ProContract: DN820164

02 / Production contract / C16925

Nuclear Waste Services Bid requirements

Estimated contract value	Working bid deadline
£500,000 excl. VAT	**23 November, 10am**
1 March 2027 to 28 February 2029; possible extensions to February 2031.	Questions: 20 November, 10am.

A deadline mismatch to resolve

The official notice and ITT sections 5 and 7 give **23 November at 10am**. Atamis's public listing gives **24 November**. Plan to submit by the earlier time and ask NWS to confirm the closing date through Atamis.

Facilities and crew	Studio access within commuting distance of both Cumbria and the South East; in-house post-production; short-notice small crews. Owned or contracted studio facilities are allowed.
Insurance	Public liability **£10m**; employer's liability, professional indemnity and product liability **£5m each**. PSQ Q15 accepts existing cover or a commitment to obtain it before award.
Contract examples	PSQ Q18 asks for up to three comparable contracts from the past **three years**, with customer contacts. Examples need a minimum score of 6 under the PSQ matrix.
Security and data	PSQ Q25 accepts relevant cyber certification or a commitment to obtain it before go-live. Q26 also asks about protectively marked information. The scope requires BPSS or equivalent for people accessing NWS assets, and UK data processing unless NWS accepts the proposed alternative.
Financial standing	Appendix 12 asks for two years of metrics, including revenue of at least **1.5x expected annual contract value** and operating margin of at least **5%**. It also tests liquidity, debt cover and net assets, with space for mitigation.

Resolve the turnover question early

Clarification Log V2 records a question about studios with £250,000-£500,000 turnover; its response is still pending. Ask which annual contract value NWS will use for the 1.5x ratio and how it will assess your proposed bidding structure.

ITT: timetable and submission | PSQ: Q15, Q18, Q25-Q26
Appendix 12: financial thresholds | Clarification Log V2
Scope: facilities and security | Atamis listing and document library

02 / Nuclear Waste Services / Response plan

Response limits and pricing requirements

80% technical / 20% commercial. Clarification Log V2 confirms this split, correcting the older 70/30 wording in the ITT. The separate technical-question pack gives these limits:

Question	Weight / limit	Evidence to prepare
Q1: capability	30% 2 A4 pages	A varied portfolio, ideally from the past five years, plus one case covering the brief, creativity, quality control, time, budget and result.
Q2: collaboration	10% 2 A4 pages	A workflow aligned with NWS Appendix A, plus two examples showing collaboration across your team, specialists and the client.
Q3: three film types	20% 2 A4 pages	Approaches to Appendices B, C and D: roles, schedules, committed service levels, lessons and costings. Staff pen portraits go in a separate appendix.
Q4: complex work	20% 1 A4 page	One difficult shoot or post-production example, how the problem was resolved and how cost was controlled. Link a reel or use the requested appendix.

Response format: minimum 11-point type, 1.5 line spacing, A4. Each answer must stand on its own. Use video hyperlinks rather than video attachments. The written technical answers total seven pages, plus the appendices requested in the question pack.

Before setting your day rates

Rate card: eight-hour days and a single flat rate per grade, including overtime, weekend and night working. Normal costs, overheads and profit are included. Only job-role rates are scored; the extras field is for information.

Role weights: director / DoP 5%; producer 3%; editor 3%; camera operator 2%; photographer 3%; account manager 4%.

Allow for the delivery work: the scope recommends at least three review rounds unless agreed otherwise, weekly project meetings, cost reporting, secure archiving and open-file handover. Price the administration as well as the shoot and edit.

Travel: base-office-to-project travel and subsistence are treated separately, reimbursed at cost within NWS policy limits. Travel time to perform the work is chargeable and assumed to sit within the working day.

Submission bundle: PSQ and financial information; four technical answers and requested appendices; completed rate card; signed forms in Appendices 4, 5 and 6.

Technical questions and page limits | Clarification Log V2: scoring correction
Rate card | Commercial notes: Appendix 7a | Scope: reviews, reporting and files