Public wifi via the Janet network

Buyer’s Guide

For procurement through Jisc’s Dynamic Purchasing Service (DPS)

Copyright © 2018 Jisc Services Ltd.

OJEU Contract Notice Number: 2018/S 053-117581

Main contact: Mark O’Leary  Mark.O’Leary@jisc.ac.uk
Contents

1. What is a DPS?.................................................................................................................................3
2. Can I access this DPS?.........................................................................................................................3
3. What is the Public wifi DPS? ..............................................................................................................4
4. What is the scope of the Public wifi DPS? ..........................................................................................4
5. How does the Public wifi DPS operate? ..............................................................................................4
6. What must the customer tell Jisc Services Limited once an order is placed? .................................5
7. What is the duration of the Public wifi DPS? ......................................................................................5
8. Was the Public wifi DPS tendered under EU procurement rules? ......................................................5
9. Who are the Suppliers? .......................................................................................................................5
10. What selection criteria have been assessed for suppliers who have been accepted on to the DPS? .................................................................................................................................5
11. What are the technical requirements for admittance to the DPS? ......................................................6
12. Are there terms and conditions that must be used? ..........................................................................6

Frequently Asked Questions....................................................................................................................7
1. What should the Customer remember when running a mini competition? .................................7
2. How does a customer contact suppliers? ...............................................................................................7
3. How does a Customer contact Jisc Services Limited in connection with the DPS? ..........................7
4. How does a Customer provide feedback about a supplier? .................................................................7
5. Can I buy any other services or equipment via this DPS? .................................................................7
1. **What is a DPS?**

A Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) is a completely electronic system, which may be established by a contracting authority to purchase commonly used goods, works or services.

Benefits of a DPS include:

- Reduced timescales for procurements;
- Ease for procurers and providers as it is entirely electronic;
- Allowing new providers to join at any time, ensuring on-going competition and immediate access to innovation in the market, such that:
  - The market place can remain competitive in terms of cost and quality;
  - Prices can remain current;
  - Innovative providers are able to join.

A DPS must be open though its duration for the admission of any economic operator (“supplier”) which satisfies the selection criteria specified by the contracting authority and submits an application to the contracting authority that complies with the specification. A supplier seeking admission to a DPS completes a Request to Participate (RTP). The RTP sets out the terms on which the supplier would be prepared to enter into a contract should they be awarded a contract under the DPS.

2. **Can I access this DPS?**

The scope of the DPS covers purchases by JSL, Jisc and its members. These organizations will primarily be members of Jisc and/or those providing or supporting education, research or culture. These can be summarized as:

- all institutions of higher or further education;
- all laboratories and other establishments of the Research Councils;
- the bodies funding higher and further education and research across the UK;
- local government authorities where these are providing broadband ICT services to schools, or commissioning these services from third parties;
- “Regional Broadband Consortia” and any other vehicles created by local government authorities in England to aggregate the provision of broadband ICT services to schools;
- the equivalent bodies in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland providing broadband ICT services to schools;
- individual schools, whether under local government control or with other governance.

Many of the above bodies are also members of higher and further education purchasing consortia. These are independent organizations that provide a wide range of collaborative purchase agreements to their member institutions through consensus and the common desire to maximise their purchasing power in the market place. Any member of one of these consortia will be eligible to access many of Jisc’s services by virtue of its membership1, as will members of any other similar purchasing consortium in higher or further education that might be formed during the lifetime of the hosting arrangement.

---

1 Membership lists for existing higher and further education purchasing consortia may be found at:
- [http://www.lupc.ac.uk/list-of-members.html](http://www.lupc.ac.uk/list-of-members.html)
- [http://www.nwupc.ac.uk/our-members](http://www.nwupc.ac.uk/our-members)
3. **What is the Public wifi DPS?**

Educational organisations engage with the public in many ways, from open days for the families of prospective students through to casual visits to cafés and museum spaces on campus that are open to the general public. Increasingly, members of the public expect to be offered connectivity at such events and venues to make their visits more enjoyable and productive; such connectivity may also provide a way for the hosting organisation to offer further experiences or solicit feedback. However, the provision of connectivity to the general public incurs a number of onerous legislative responsibilities, so Jisc requires members to partner with a commercial Internet service provider to manage these responsibilities on behalf of the education organisation (see the Jisc Eligibility Policy\(^2\) clauses 15-18). There is also a factsheet\(^3\) that covers the issue of visitor connectivity in more depth.

To make this easier, Jisc now offers the Public wifi DPS, through which services offering Public wifi via the Janet network can be accessed. A DPS is a special kind of procurement framework that provides the most flexibility in keeping the products or services on offer up-to-date and competitive. A group of suppliers have been through a rigorous procurement exercise with Jisc and are now ready to respond with bids against your statement of requirements in a ‘mini competition’ – you get the benefits of a formal procurement without the overheads of managing it, and rapid access to a choice of bids tailored to your needs. Jisc manages this process on your behalf and ensures all runs smoothly up to the point you sign a contract with your chosen supplier.

4. **What is the scope of the Public wifi DPS?**

The primary purpose of this DPS is to deliver connectivity services on campus tailored to the needs of the general public. You are already well served in providing connectivity to members of the sector, through eduroam, other public-sector visitors through govroam, and visitors with whom you have a temporary relationship that you can plan for in advance by the eVA service, so this DPS does not cover those aspects of visitor connectivity.

To meet the general public use case, the products and services on offer have been designed to meet the requirements of GDPR and the need for encryption of any public traffic that you pass across Janet to protect our private network status and remain compliant with Jisc eligibility and security policies.

This need for encryption between the customer site and the supplier across Janet also creates a further opportunity to offer additional related services that use the same secure connectivity. While not all bidders will offer additional services, those that do can respond to your wider requirements, such as footfall tracking of visitors, marketing follow-up of public visitors etc. A list of the additional services available will be published via the Public wifi DPS webpage.

5. **How does the Public wifi DPS operate?**

Initially, potential customers should discuss your needs with your Jisc account manager. If you are eligible and your requirements can be met through the DPS, they will then provide you with a mini competition template document on which to build the series of questions for bidders that you will use to judge their bids and select a winner. You will pass your completed mini completion form back to Jisc, and we will distribute it to all bidders, manage any resulting clarification questions with you, and then pass back any completed responses received. Depending on your requirements, you may need to

---

\(^2\) https://community.jisc.ac.uk/library/janet-policies/eligibility-policy

\(^3\) https://community.jisc.ac.uk/library/janet-policies/guest-and-public-network-access
agree a date for an on-site visit from the bidder before they can complete a proposal. You will then assess the bids received and pick a preferred supplier. You notify Jisc of your decision and then enter into final contract negotiations with the successful bidder and ultimately proceed into deployment and service.

Bids will be provided within 10 days of the mini-competition being issued and may take the form of a tailored bid following email or telephone discussion, or for simpler cases the provision of a price list. Where a site visit is required to complete a tailored bid, bidders must provide an indicative pricing estimate within the 10 days and offer a date for the site visit within 15 days.

When evaluating the bids received, the customer may either select the Most Economically Advantageous Tender taking into account price, quality and delivery elements as highlighted in the individual mini-competition specification or elect to evaluate on the basis of the lowest price bid only. In either case, you may choose not to accept any of the bids if they don’t meet your needs.

6. **What must the customer tell Jisc Services Limited once an order is placed?**

Contract Award Notices must be submitted on a quarterly basis by the Jisc Procurement Team. The Jisc Procurement Team will then publish Contract Award Notices at three-month intervals detailing the outcome of the mini-competitions.

Individual customers must therefore email procurement@jisc.ac.uk with the name of the supplier that the mini-competition has been awarded to together with the total contract award value. To assist the Procurement team, it would be appreciated if the subject field of the email is “Public wifi DPS award details”.

7. **What is the duration of the Public wifi DPS?**

The initial term of the Service is from 1st July 2018 to 31st June 2021. Jisc Services Limited reserves the right to extend the DPS for a further two years, to 31st June 2023.

8. **Was the Public wifi DPS tendered under EU procurement rules?**

Yes, the notice was advertised in OJEU on 16 March 2018 number 2018/S 053-117581 and tendered using the restricted procedure.

9. **Who are the Suppliers?**

The following have been admitted to the Public wifi DPS at launch:

- Pinac Solutions UK Ltd
- The Networking People (Northwest) Ltd
- ITEC Connect
- WiFi SPARK
- Sky

10. **What selection criteria have been assessed for suppliers who have been accepted on to the DPS?**

The following selection criteria have been met satisfactorily by all suppliers accepted on to the Public wifi DPS:

- Grounds for mandatory rejection as set out in Regulation 57(1) and (2) of the Public Contracts
Regulations;
- Grounds for discretionary rejection as set out in Regulation 57(8) of the Public Contracts Regulations;
- Financial and Economic Standing;
- Requirements Under Modern Slavery Act 2015
- Auditing and Quality Assurance;
- Information Security
- Contract Terminations.

Buyers can request details of RTP responses provided by suppliers successfully accepted on to the Public Wifi Purchasing Service via email (procurement@jisc.ac.uk).

11. What are the technical requirements for admittance to the DPS?

All of the requirements below must be met by the suppliers accepted on to the Public wifi DPS. To meet these requirements the supplier may, if it wishes, subcontract the provision of services relating to these requirements. The supplier responding will be the single point of contact for contractual purposes.

- Private peering to Janet;
- Encrypted backhaul mechanism;
- Audit access for Jisc engineers;
- Capability to provide a suitable Public wifi solution;
- Capability to identify individual users of their service;
- Appropriate processes for addressing security vulnerabilities;
- Appropriate processes for maintaining secure encryption and handling sensitive data;
- Data processing within EEA, or UK-based / customer premises as an option;
- Appropriate contractual arrangements for handling GDPR issues;
- Similar considerations on any additional services offered.

12. Are there terms and conditions that must be used?

The customer contracts for the product or service from its preferred bidder using that supplier’s own contract.

Organisations in the DPS must offer the customer either a standalone GDPR client data sharing agreement or equivalent clauses within the service contract.
Frequently Asked Questions

1. What should the Customer remember when running a mini competition?

Your mini-competition questionnaire is the only means you have to provide a detailed statement of your requirements to the bidding suppliers. You must be as detailed as you can, and try to anticipate edge cases and areas of ambiguity.

The responses to your questions are the only means you have to evaluate the quality of the bids you receive. Try to phrase your questions as clearly as possible, and with a view to making them easy to mark fairly when the responses are returned. An ambiguous question may result in answers that are hard to compare between bidders fairly.

2. How does a customer contact suppliers?

Before you have selected a supplier, all contacts have to flow via Jisc procurement, so that we can ensure all members of the DPS have fair access to appropriate information. The exception to this would be if on preparing a quotation for you following receipt of your mini competition questionnaire, a supplier needed to speak to you directly to clarify your needs.

After you select your winner, Jisc then steps back and you negotiate directly with the bidder to finalise your contract.

3. How does a Customer contact Jisc Services Limited in connection with the DPS?

In the first instance, you should speak with your Jisc account manager.

For any technical questions on how the DPS operates, you should email procurement@jisc.ac.uk.

4. How does a Customer provide feedback about a supplier?

Any concerns (or praise) should be directed to procurement@jisc.ac.uk. If you wish this feedback to be treated in confidence, please indicate this in your message.

5. Can I buy any other services or equipment via this DPS?

The DPS allows for additional services directly related to public wifi provision to be offered. A list of these as available from the suppliers will be maintained on the Public wifi DPS web page. Note that not all suppliers in the DPS are offering services in addition to public wifi services.