



Quarterly report · Q3 2026

UK public procurement, July to September 2026

9,385

contracts awarded

£150,000

median published value

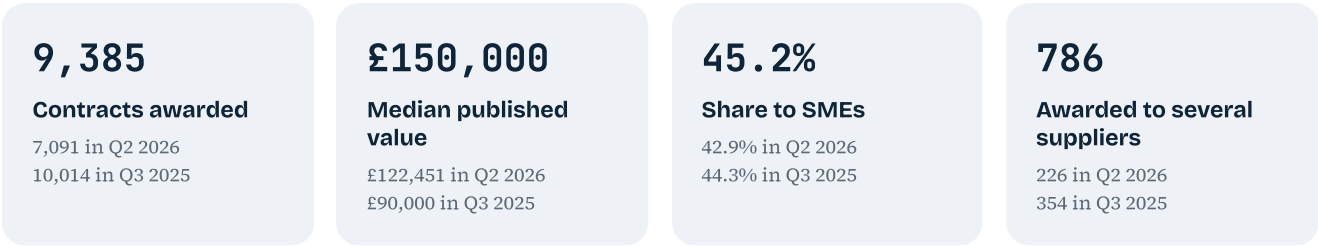
45.2%

to SMEs, where the buyer said

The quarter at a glance

UK public bodies published awards for 9,385 contracts on Find a Tender and Contracts Finder between 1 July 2026 and 30 September 2026, up 32% on the previous quarter and down 6% on the same quarter last year.

The median published value was £150,000, against £122,451 in the previous quarter and £90,000 a year earlier. Awards naming several suppliers, mostly frameworks, more than tripled, to 786 from 226. Where the buyer said, 45.2% of contracts went to small and medium-sized businesses and 2.1% to voluntary, community and social enterprises.



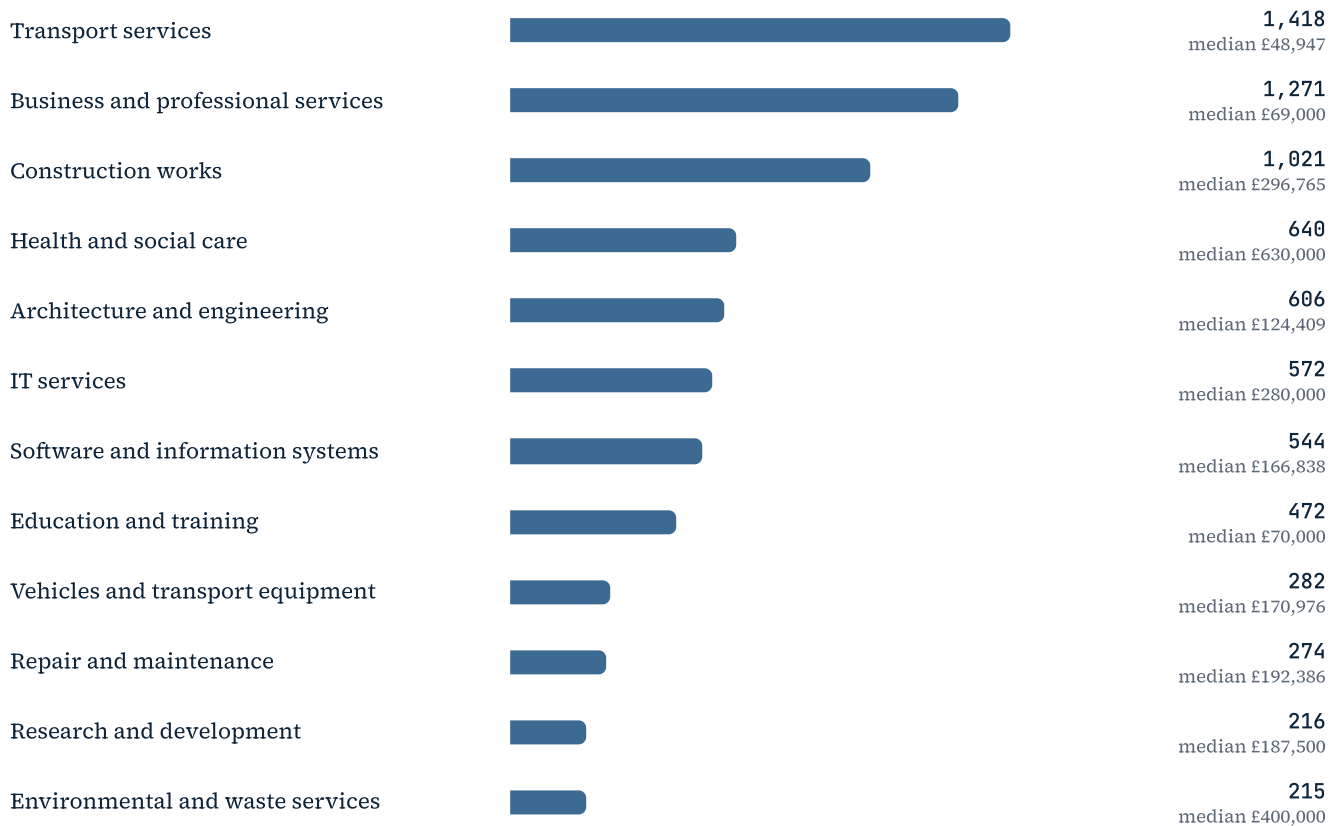
Contracts awarded by month



Figures taken on 5 October 2026. Notices published late still arrive, so the final count for the quarter will be a little higher; this edition stays as published.

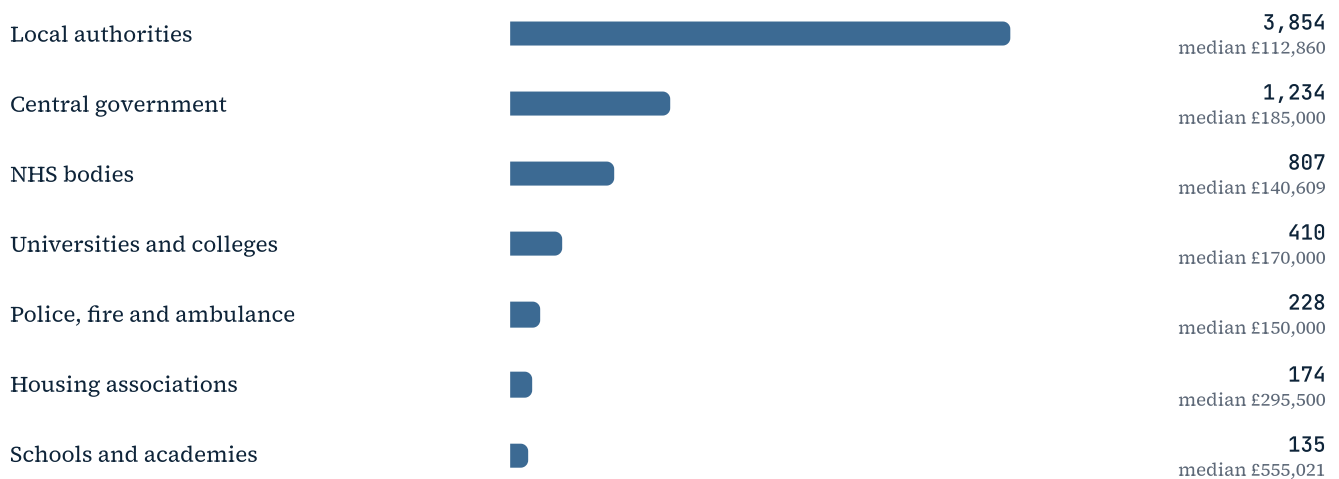
What was bought, and by whom

The twelve busiest categories of work



contracts, with the median published value; categories are CPV divisions

By type of buyer



contracts; buyers we can classify, so these do not add up to the total

Where, and the busiest buyers

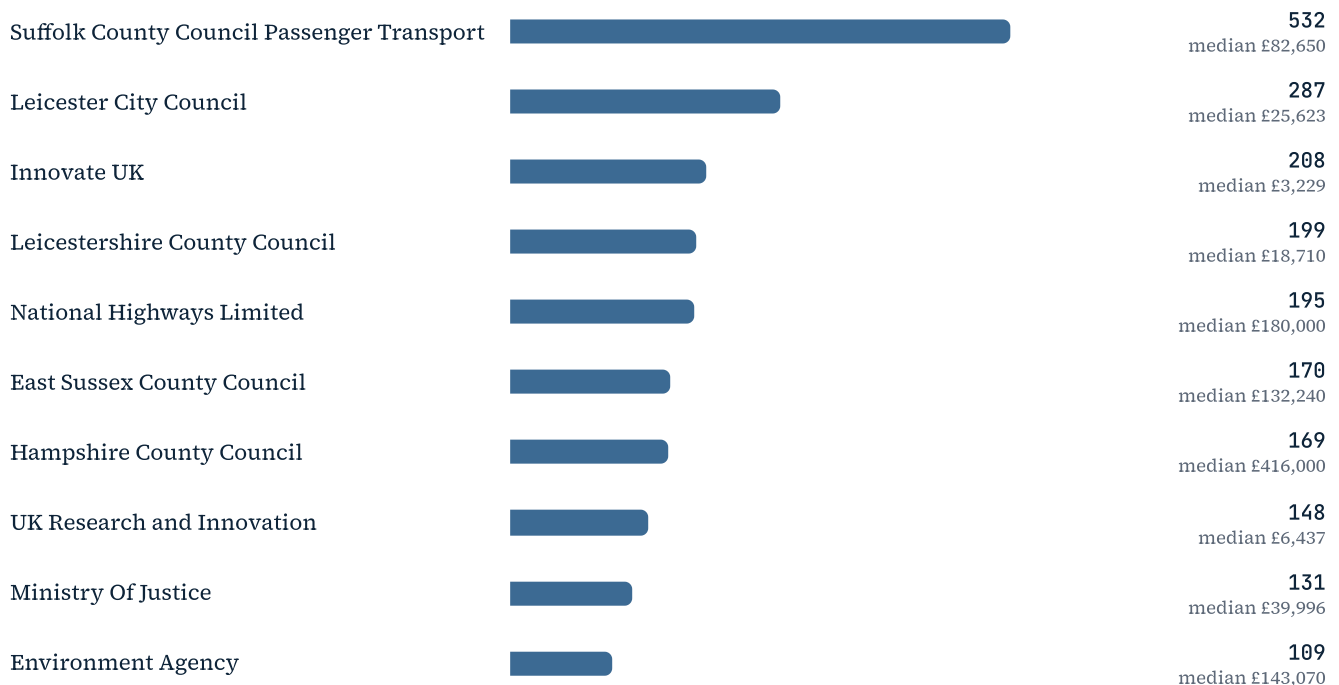
By English region



contracts, by where the work is delivered, or the buyer's location when the notice does not say

Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are left out: our award records come from Find a Tender and Contracts Finder, which carry only the larger contracts in the devolved nations.

The busiest buyers



contracts awarded in the quarter

What comes next

Contracts ending after the quarter, counted from the end dates in the original award notices. Each is a likely re-tender with a date already attached.

6,952

ending in the next
quarter

16,799

ending in the next six
months

29,889

ending in the next
twelve months

40,132

ending in the next
eighteen months

The largest published values

As published by the buyer. Most are framework ceilings, the most that could be spent, not money spent, and some look like errors in the notice. We never add them together.

Contract	Buyer	Published value
Digital Development Partner	Arts Council of England	£5bn
HEAT NETWORK DEVELOPMENT PARTNER	Plymouth City Council	£3.5bn
Procurement for St Thomas Energy Project - Energy as a Service (EaaS) Solution for GSTT	Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust	£2bn
Lot 2 Prepaid Cards	Government Commercial Agency	£2bn (5 suppliers)
HMRC Customer Relationship Management	HM Revenue & Customs	£2bn
Major Projects Framework	ANGLIAN WATER SERVICES LIMITED	£1.5bn (2 suppliers)
Major Projects Framework	ANGLIAN WATER SERVICES LIMITED	£1.5bn (2 suppliers)
Care Home Services (Older People).	Cornwall Council	£1.2bn (38 suppliers)
Lot 1 - Mobile Catalogue and Optional Services	Government Commercial Agency	£1.1bn (2 suppliers)
UKHSA Diagnostics and Research Open Framework - Lot 2	Secretary of State for Health and Social Care acting as part of the Crown through UK Health Security Agency	£1.1bn (60 suppliers)

How these figures were counted

One contract per award notice (ocid and award id), dated by its award date. A framework naming several suppliers counts once. Values are as published by the buyer and are never added together; values above £5bn are treated as errors. SME and voluntary sector shares are of contracts where the buyer said. Sources: Find a Tender and Contracts Finder, Open Government Licence v3.0.

How to cite this report

Tender Radar (2026). *UK public procurement report, July to September 2026*. Professor AI Holdings Ltd.
<https://tender-radar.co.uk/research/quarterly/2026-q3>

The tables are free to download as CSV from the web edition. Journalists and researchers can also have free access to query the data from Claude or ChatGPT: write to paul@professor-ai.co.uk.

About Tender Radar

“Everything Tender Radar shows you is already public. What is not fair is who gets to see it put together: the large contractors, who can pay thousands a year for intelligence and staff a bid team to read it. I built this so a ten-person firm or a local charity can see the same market they do, for £30 a month.”

Professor Paul Noon OBE

Tender Radar reads the UK's public procurement portals every weekday, scores new tenders against each customer's profile, and shows the contracts coming up for renewal before they are re-tendered. £30 a month, with a 30-day free trial. Public sector buyers can use its supplier finder free.

Start a free trial at tender-radar.co.uk