



Crown  
Commercial  
Service

# Procurement Policy Note – Update to Transparency Principles

Action Note PPN 01/17 February 2017

## Issue:

1. Government has in place a presumption in favour of disclosure of contract and related information, that may previously have been withheld on grounds of commercial confidentiality. This was set-out originally in PPN 13/15 and has now been updated and simplified. The revised Transparency Principles are available [here](#).

## Dissemination and Scope:

2. This PPN updates and replaces PPN 13/15 dated 3 August 2015. The contents of this PPN apply to all Central Government Departments, their Executive Agencies and Non Departmental Public Bodies. Together these are referred to in this PPN as 'In-Scope Organisations'. Please circulate this PPN within your organisation, drawing it to the attention of those with a commercial and procurement role.

## Timing:

3. In-Scope organisations should apply the provisions of this Procurement Policy Note.

## Action:

4. In-scope organisations should engage in early discussions with suppliers, and in advance of any contract award, the types of procurement and contracts information which can be disclosed to the public, and then to ensure publication of that information in an accessible format.

**Background:**

5. On 24 March 2015, the Government published a set of general transparency principles (in PPN 13/15) that required public procurers proactively to disclose contract and related information that may previously have been withheld on grounds of commercial confidentiality. These have been clarified following feedback.
  
6. The financial transparency of suppliers remains a priority and is a key feature of the Government Commercial Function's commercial intelligence programme.

**Contact:**

7. Enquiries about this PPN should be directed to the Crown Commercial Service Helpdesk on 0345 410 2222 or [info@crowncommercial.gov.uk](mailto:info@crowncommercial.gov.uk).