

DWP

Social and Economic Research Framework

April 2011 Newsletter

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Welcome to the latest edition of the Research Framework Newsletter. Through these newsletters we aim to communicate the latest developments on Framework issues, details of future events and information on the Framework Projects that have recently been contracted or published.

In this issue there is information on:

- This year's Research programme
- The Government's Transparency Agenda
- Changes to invoicing
- Framework Projects Commissioned and Reports Published

The newsletter will be emailed to the main contact listed for each of our Framework Organisations. If you have any colleagues that would like to receive copies please forward on this newsletter.

Kate Callow
Framework Manager

The Research Programme for 2011/12

The majority of the projects commissioned via the Research Framework are planned in advance for the coming operational year. The development of DWP's Research Programme takes place, on an annual basis, between our analytical and policy staff and at a Ministerial level.

The Research Programme for the operational year 2011/2012 is attached [here](#) for information. We have indicated where possible the projects that have already begun the commissioning process by "greying out". The projects are grouped by Ministerial area.

Contracts will continue to be awarded through the single tender route unless otherwise advertised. Some projects will go out to mini-competition within the relevant Lot on the Framework. If this happens the main contact will receive an email inviting you to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI). Following supplier feedback, all Mini Competitions will be held over two stages; a scored EOI that will be used to draw up a shortlist of organisations who will then be invited to submit a full Invitation to Tender.

It should also be noted that a limited number of projects may be approved “in-year” so may not appear on this research programme. This reflects our expectation that the research programme will evolve throughout the year, for example as policy needs change or as new ministerial requirements emerge.

The Transparency Agenda and Contracts Finder

As you may be aware the Coalition has set out the need for greater transparency in procurement. To help achieve this requirement, there is a commitment for all new central government contracts to be published.

This commitment will apply to all contracts issued since 1st January 2011 with a value over £10,000 and will include those let under framework arrangements. The published contract will be made available on the [Contracts Finder website](#).

We will be writing to you on an individual basis if this affects one of your contracts with us.

Changes to Electronic Invoices

The Department’s Purchase-to-Pay team in Cardiff will no longer process PDF invoices sent directly to them. If this affects you then please can you send paper copies of the invoice in the post to the address given on the front page of the contract?

Framework Projects Commissioned and Reports Published

Attached [here](#) is a list of social research projects that DWP has commissioned between April 2010 and March 2011.

You can find all DWP research publications on [this](#) page on our website, which is regularly updated.

This newsletter was put together by the Research Framework Team, if you have questions on any of the areas covered please contact us.

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