

Mains Replacement And Associated Works Local Delivery Partner QUDM Frequently Asked Questions

Who are Cadent? Cadent is a gas distribution company that connects customers to the gas they use – whether its homes, factories, shops or businesses. Cadent is committed to operating gas pipelines in a safe and reliable way with minimum inconvenience to communities. There are eight regional distribution networks, four of which are owned by Cadent. The four owned by Cadent are in the West Midlands, North West, East of England, East Midlands and North London. Gas is owned by your gas supplier and Cadent is responsible for this gas whilst it is being transported. Our UK distribution networks deliver gas to around 11 million consumers. <https://cadentgas.com>

What is a Qualifying Utilities Dynamic Market (QUDM)?

A QUDM is a mechanism for Utility companies to establish a list of approved suppliers. Under the Procurement Act 2023, it acts as an open-ended, digital supplier list that is an alternative mechanism to traditional framework agreements for awarding contracts.

The QUDM is a two-stage sourcing process which will enables contracting authorities to contract for works, goods and services from suppliers who have been verified and approved at the setting up (Stage 1) of the process.

The QUDM gives a platform for suppliers to compete for property related works. These can range from either one-off projects to small programmes of work.

Who is Managing the QUDM?

Cadent are using a Constructionline (Procurement and Supply Management Service host company) to carry out the stage 1 assessment of all submitted applications. All interested suppliers are required to submit their applications to Constructionline who will carry out assessment and verification checks.

Who are the Construction Management Organisations (CMO)?

Where applicable, the CMO's manage the delivery of construction, operational activities and associated services within Cadent's North West and East of England Networks. London, West Midlands and East Midland all now operate without a CMO, with Local Delivery Partners taking on the role of Principle Contractors.

How does the QUDM work?

Stage 1 – To join the QUDM, suppliers will be asked to meet an initial set of selection criteria, based on Common Assessment Standard (CAS) which was commissioned by Government and developed by the British Standards Institute. On satisfactory completion of the selection criteria the supplier will be admitted onto Cadent's QUDM. Suppliers can join at any time during the validity of the QUDM. There will be no limit on the number of suppliers that may join the QUDM.

Stage 2 – At the second stage an Invitation to Tender will be issued to relevant suppliers on the QUDM, filters will be applied to the QUDM to ensure the most suitable suppliers

are invited to tender. Filters include, but are not limited to, geographical, value of project, certification

What do I need to do if I am interested in joining Cadent's QUDM?

Joining the QUDM is a simple process and will give suppliers the opportunity to compete for work that is on offer with Cadent. If you are interested, please register via Construction Line.

Will I have to pay to join Cadent's QUDM?

No, there is no cost to register with Constructionline and complete the online questionnaire.

Will I have to pay to register on to the Ariba System?

No, it is free to register on the Ariba System.

How do I apply to go on to Cadent's QUDM?

Suppliers must submit their application electronically as indicated on Constructionline web page Cadent's QUDM by the closing date and time date and time indicated for the initial setting up of the QUDM. You will be sent acknowledgement e-mail of your application by Constructionline. However, as soon as Cadent advertise their first opportunity for work the QUDM will be open again for new applications for the validity period of the QUDM.

If my application fails at Stage 1 of the process, can I apply again?

Rejected suppliers are provided with feedback in order to enable them to re-apply at a later date should they wish to do so. Suppliers can re-apply at any time during the validity of the QUDM.

What happens if my organisation's selection criteria changes or expires?

Your organisation will not be eligible to be selected to bid for work until it updates it's details with Constructionline e.g. if your insurance has lapsed, until you have renewed your insurance and updated the information with Constructionline.

How will I know I my application has been successful?

Suppliers will be sent e-mail by Constructionline of the outcome.

How do I get further information on Cadent's QUDM?

On the Constructionline's landing page Cadent's QUDM please double click on the required document to download it. Only the information contained within these documents, or otherwise communicated in writing to suppliers when applying to join

Cadent's QUDM should be considered by suppliers when making their application. Should there be any confusion as to the meaning of anything within any of these documents, you should obtain written clarification prior to the submission of your application. If required, documentation will be amended and all suppliers will be informed of any points of clarification and additional information provided as a result of a clarification request. No reasonable and relevant request for additional information will be refused.

When do I submit my proposal for works including my prices?

Suppliers are asked to submit their proposal and their prices at Stage 2 of the process. At this stage suppliers will be issued with the precise details of the work in order to submit their proposal and prices.

To be eligible to receive opportunities from Cadent you must have verified status for the category applicable to the work required at the time of placing your bid.

Is Cadent going to limit the number of suppliers on its QUDM?

No, there will be no limit on the number of suppliers that go on to Cadent's QUDM