UK notices release 9 API changes

This release note previews the upcoming release scheduled for the week commencing 13 January 2025. It covers API changes and not UI ones.

This release adds UK1 pipeline notices, fixes issues with release 8 reported during testing, including allowing underscore characters in procurement references, and implements various data integrity checks when linking notices to ensure procurements are being carried out in line with legislation.

New notice type

- UK1 pipeline notices can be published via API - required from 1 April 2025

XSD changes

Minor breaking changes:
- In UK6 and UK7, tender/procurementMethodDetails made mandatory and value "Below threshold - unknown" allowed (as well as current options)
- In UK11, contracts/terminationRationaleClassification/id value "other" allowed and "nationalSecurity" not allowed
- In UK10, contracts/proposedAmendments/period/maxExtentDate not allowed without …/endDate

Non-breaking changes:
- Underscore character allowed in tender/id
- In UK3, tender/techniques/frameworkAgreement/type made optional
- In UK5, UK6 and UK7, parties/details/excludedSupplier/exclusionGrounds/criteria/jurisdiction = "GB"/"nonGB" renamed to …/domesticLegalBasis = "true"/"false"
- In UK5, ocid allowed without previousNotice to allow linking to UK1/UK2

Summary of validation changes

- Tendering period checks only applied above threshold, additional dates checked and ensured dates in correct order (R203, R204, R205, R206, R226, R227)
- Award decision date must be included above threshold in UK3 as well as UK4 (R102, R106)
- Contracts must not be awarded, signed or switched to direct award before the submission deadline in a linked/related UK4 (R074)
- Number of tenders assessed must be more than or the same as the number of awarded suppliers (R612)
- Framework/dynamic market links must be to those things, must only be included when using an appropriate procedure type, and must be active in UK6/UK7 (R801, R030, R032, R033, R060)

- Procurements/lots must not be cancelled/switched to direct award multiple times (R038, R054, R075)
- Procedure type validation updates related to XSD change, DM use and threshold indicator (R510 additionally applied to UK5, R512, R596, R807 additionally applied to UK4, R057, R061, R070)
- Multiple lots must have been included UK4 to be included in UK6/UK7; duplicate checks removed (R620 additionally applied to UK7, R049, R054, R072)
- Lots must not be uncancelled, data must be included for non-cancelled lots and not for cancelled lots; cancelled lots excluded from value checks (R901, R906, R923, R925, R048)
- First lot IDs in linked notices must match (R073)
- Don't allow incomplete pending contracts (R724 additionally applied to UK6)
- Notice linking rules updated (R020)
- Edits excluded from some rules and duplicate checks removed (R204, R206, R207, R210, R232, R024, R028, R029, R062, R065, R066)
- Bugs fixed (R580, R031, R036)

New validation rules

- R102 - UK3, UK4 - Award decision date (tender/awardPeriod/endDate) must be included above threshold (tender/aboveThreshold = "true")
- R226 - UK3 - Contract start date (tender/lots/contractPeriod/startDate) must be after or the same as the tender submission deadline (tender/tenderPeriod/endDate) ignoring time parts
- R227 - UK3 - Contract start date (tender/lots/contractPeriod/startDate) must be after or the same as the deadline for requests to participate (tender/expressionOfInterestDeadline) ignoring time parts
- R596 - UK3, UK4 - Procurement must be above threshold (tender/aboveThreshold = "true") if procedure type (tender/procurementMethodDetails) is "Competitive flexible procedure" or "Open procedure", or must be below threshold (tender/aboveThreshold = "false") if procedure type is "Below threshold - by reference to dynamic market" or "Below threshold - open competition"
- R612 - UK6 - Total number of tenders assessed (bids/statistics/value where bids/statistics/measure = "finalStageBids") must be the same as or more than the number of unique awarded suppliers (awards/suppliers/id) for contracts related to this lot (awards/relatedLots = bids/statistics/relatedLot)
- R801 - UK3, UK4, UK6, UK7 - Framework/dynamic market link (relatedProcesses/relationship = "framework") must only be included if procedure type (tender/procurementMethodDetails) is "Award under framework", "Below threshold - award under framework", "Below threshold - by reference to dynamic market" or "Competitive flexible procedure"
- R906 - UK3, UK4 - Contract start and end dates (tender/lots/contractPeriod) must be included for non-cancelled lots (tender/lots/status = "planned" or "active") and must not be included for cancelled lots (tender/lots/status = "cancelled")
- R030 - UK6, UK7 - Framework being used (relatedProcesses/identifier where relatedProcesses/relationship = "framework") must be an active framework (tender/techniques/hasFrameworkAgreement and contracts/status = "active" in

relatedProcesses/identifier) if procedure type (tender/procurementMethodDetails) is "Award under framework" or "Below threshold - award under framework"

- R032 - UK3, UK4, UK6, UK7 - Dynamic market being used (relatedProcesses/identifier where relatedProcesses/relationship = "framework") must be a dynamic market (tender/techniques/hasDynamicPurchasingSystem in relatedProcesses/identifier) if procedure type (tender/procurementMethodDetails) is "Below threshold - by reference to dynamic market" or "Competitive flexible procedure"
- R033 - UK6, UK7 - Dynamic market being used (relatedProcesses/identifier where relatedProcesses/relationship = "framework") must be an active dynamic market (tender/techniques/dynamicPurchasingSystem/status = "active" in relatedProcesses/identifier) if procedure type (tender/procurementMethodDetails) is "Below threshold - by reference to dynamic market" or "Competitive flexible procedure"
- R048 - UK3, UK4, UK13 - Lots/parts (tender/lots/id) with status (tender/lots/status) "planned" or "active" in this notice must not have been "cancelled" in a previous notice or version in this process (ocid)
- R072 - UK6, UK7 - Multiple lots (tender/lots/id) must only be included in this notice if also included in a linked UK4 notice (ocid)
- R073 - UK1, UK2, UK3, UK4, UK5 - The first lot (tender/lots/id) included in previous notices (ocid) or previous versions of this notice (previousNotice) must be included as the first lot again
- R074 - UK6, UK7 - UK6 and UK7 notices cannot be published until after the submission deadline (tender/expressionOfInterestDeadline or tender/tenderPeriod/endDate) in the linked UK4 notice (ocid) if there is one
- R075 - UK6, UK7, UK12 - Lots must not have been switched to direct award (ocid = UK5's relatedProcesses/identifier, and either awards/relatedLots = UK5's relatedProcesses/relatedLots or relatedProcesses/relatedLots not included)
- R076 - UK1, UK2, UK3, UK4, UK13, UK14 - Later notices in this procurement process (ocid) do not allow this notice type to be edited (previousNotice) - see documentation:
    - UK1/UK2 cannot be edited if UK4/UK5/UK6/UK7/UK12/UK13 published
    - UK3 cannot be edited if UK4/UK6/UK12 published
    - UK4 cannot be edited if UK12 published
    - UK13 cannot be edited if UK14/UK16 published
    - UK14 cannot be edited if UK16 published

Updated validation rules

- R106 - UK4 - Languages that may be used for submission (tender/submissionTerms/languages) must be included above threshold (tender/aboveThreshold = "true")
- R203 - UK3 - Tender submission deadline (tender/tenderPeriod/endDate), award decision date (tender/awardPeriod/endDate) and all contract start dates (tender/lots/contractPeriod/startDate) must be 10 or more days after the publication date of the tender notice (tender/communication/futureNoticeDate) ignoring time parts, if justification for reduced tendering period

(tender/procedure/acceleratedRationale) is "Pre-selected tenderers - utilities/not central government", "Qualifying planned procurement notice", "State of urgency" or "Using dynamic market"

- R204 - UK4 - Tender submission deadline (tender/tenderPeriod/endDate) and award decision date (tender/awardPeriod/endDate) must be 10 or more days in the future ignoring time part, if justification for reduced tendering period (tender/procedure/acceleratedRationale) is "Pre-selected tenderers - utilities/not central government", "Qualifying planned procurement notice", "State of urgency" or "Using dynamic market", and this is not an edit (previousNotice)
- R205 - UK3 - Tender submission deadline (tender/tenderPeriod/endDate), award decision date (tender/awardPeriod/endDate) and all contract start dates (tender/lots/contractPeriod/startDate) must be 25 or more days after the publication date of the tender notice (tender/communication/futureNoticeDate) ignoring time parts, if above threshold (tender/aboveThreshold = "true") and justification for reduced tendering period (tender/procedure/acceleratedRationale) is not included, plus 5 days if tenders may not be submitted electronically (tender/submissionTerms/electronicSubmissionPolicy = "notAllowed"), plus 5 days if documents will be provided after the tender notice is published (tender/documents/id = "future")
- R206 - UK4 - Tender submission deadline (tender/tenderPeriod/endDate) and award decision date (tender/awardPeriod/endDate) must be 25 or more days in the future ignoring time part, if above threshold (tender/aboveThreshold = "true") and justification for reduced tendering period (tender/procedure/acceleratedRationale) is not included, plus 5 days if tenders may not be submitted electronically (tender/submissionTerms/electronicSubmissionPolicy = "notAllowed"), plus 5 days if documents will be provided after the tender notice is published (tender/documents/id = "future"), if this is not an edit (previousNotice)
- R207 - UK3, UK4 - Enquiry deadline (tender/enquiryPeriod/endDate) must be in the future if this is not an edit (previousNotice)
- R210 - UK3, UK4 - Publication date of next opportunity notice (tender/recurrence/dates/startDate) must be in the future if this is not an edit (previousNotice)
- R232 - UK2, UK5, UK6 - Milestone due date (milestones/dueDate) must be today or in the future if this is not an edit (previousNotice)
- R512 - UK3, UK4, UK5, UK6, UK7 - Procurement method details (tender/procurementMethodDetails) must align with procurement method (tender/procurementMethod) - see documentation
  - Allow additional combination of none/"Below threshold - unknown"
- R724 - UK5, UK6, UK7 - Award ID (awards/id) must match a contract ID (contracts/id) if award status (awards/status) is "pending" or "active"
- R807 - UK4, UK6, UK7 - Framework/dynamic market link (relatedProcesses/relationship = "framework") must be included if procedure type (tender/procurementMethodDetails) is "Award under framework", "Below threshold - award under framework" or "Below threshold - by reference to dynamic market"
- R901 - UK3, UK4, UK13, UK15 - Updated lot number (tender/lots/identifiers), title (tender/lots/title), description (tender/lots/description), value (tender/lots/value), award criteria (tender/lots/awardCriteria or tender/lots/awardCriteriaDetails), conditions of participation (tender/lots/selectionCriteria) and suitability

(tender/lots/suitability) must not be included for cancelled lots/parts (tender/lots/status = "cancelled")

- R923 - UK3, UK4 - Lot values (tender/lots/value/amount or tender/lots/value/amountGross) must add up to the equivalent total value (tender/value/amount or tender/value/amountGross) if values are included for all non-cancelled lots, a framework is not being established (tender/techniques/hasFrameworkAgreement) and currencies are the same (tender/[lots/]value/currency)
- R925 - UK3 - Lot values (tender/lots/value/amount or tender/lots/value/amountGross) must add up to less than the equivalent total value (tender/value/amount or tender/value/amountGross) if values are not included for all non-cancelled lots, a framework is not being established (tender/techniques/hasFrameworkAgreement) and currencies are the same (tender/[lots/]value/currency)
- R020 - UK1, UK2, UK3, UK4, UK5, UK6, UK7, UK10, UK11, UK12, UK13, UK14, UK15, UK16 - Previous notices about this procurement process (ocid) do not allow this notice type to be published now - see documentation
    - UK1 can link to UK2 or UK3 (or both) but no other notice types
    - UK2, UK3, UK4, UK6, UK7, UK12 and UK13 can link to UK1
    - UK5 can link to UK1 or UK2 (or both) but no other notice types
    - UK6 can link to UK3
    - UK14 cannot link to a procurement including UK16
- R024 - UK10, UK11 - Contract status (contracts/status) must have been "active" in the most recent linked notice (ocid) about this contract (contracts/id), ignoring previous versions of this notice (previousNotice)
- R028 - UK12 - Matching contract ID (contracts/id) must be included if an award ID (awards/id) has been included in a linked notice (ocid)
- R029 - UK4 - This procurement (ocid) must include a UK3 notice published between 40 days and 1 year ago, ignoring time of day, if justification for reduced tendering period (tender/procedure/acceleratedRationale) is "Qualifying planned procurement notice" and this is not an edit (previousNotice)
- R038 - UK12 - Related lots (awards/relatedLots) must include all lots and only those lots not cancelled in linked (ocid) UK3/UK4 notices, not related to other awards in linked UK6 or UK12 notices, and not switched to direct award in UK5 notices, if an award ID (awards/id) has not been included in a linked notice
- R049 - UK6, UK7 - Lots (tender/lots/id) must have been included in a linked notice (ocid) if there is one
- R054 - UK6, UK7 - Lots (tender/lots/id) must not have been cancelled in a linked (ocid) UK4 notice (tender/lots/status = "cancelled"), a linked UK6 notice (awards/relatedLots where awards/status = "cancelled"), or a linked UK12 notice (awards/relatedLots where awards/status was not previously "pending"), if this is not an edited notice (previousVersion)
- R057 - UK3, UK4, UK5, UK6, UK7 - Procedure type (tender/procurementMethodDetails) must match previous notices in the same procurement (ocid), or change from "Below threshold - unknown" to another below-threshold type
- R060 - UK7 - A UK7 notice must be linked to a UK6 notice (ocid) about the same contract (contracts/id), if procedure type (tender/procurementMethodDetails) is "Award under framework", "Competitive flexible procedure", "Direct award" or "Open

procedure" (above threshold), and a defence framework is not being used (tender/techniques/hasFrameworkAgreement and tender/specialRegime = "defenceSecurity" in relatedProcesses[relationship="framework"]/identifier)

- R061 - UK6, UK7 - A UK6 or UK7 notice must be linked to a UK4 notice (ocid), if procedure type (tender/procurementMethodDetails) is "Below threshold - open competition"
- R062 - UK6, UK7, UK12 - Award status (awards/status) must have been "pending" in the most recent linked notice (ocid) about this award (awards/id), ignoring previous versions of this notice (previousNotice)
- R065 - UK6 - Voluntary standstill period end date (awards/standstillPeriod/endDate) must not be included and the date the contract will be signed (contracts/milestones/dueDate) must be after the end of the mandatory standstill period (8 working days starting with today, ignoring weekends and UK bank holidays), if above threshold (awards/aboveThreshold = "true"), this is not an edit (previousNotice) and none of the following apply: (1) direct award justification (tender/procurementMethodRationaleClassifications/id) in any linked UK5 (ocid) is "urgency" or "protectLife", (2) procedure type (tender/procurementMethodDetails) is "Direct award" and all contracting authorities (parties/roles = "buyer") are private utilities (parties/details/classifications/id = "privateUtility"), (3) procedure type is "Award under framework", (4) procedure type is "Competitive flexible procedure" and a dynamic market is being used (relatedProcesses/relationship = "framework"), (5) the contract is light touch (tender/specialRegime = "lightTouch")
- R066 - UK6 - Voluntary standstill period (from today to awards/standstillPeriod/endDate inclusive) must be 8 or more working days (ignoring weekends and UK bank holidays) if this is not an edit (previousNotice)
- R070 - UK6, UK7 - Procedure type (tender/procurementMethodDetails) must be "Award under framework", "Below threshold - award under framework", "Below threshold - by reference to dynamic market", "Below threshold - limited competition", "Below threshold - unknown", "Below threshold - without competition" or "Competitive flexible procedure" if no other notices have been published about this procurement (ocid)