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Tender

The Select Provider List for HM Coroner Removals, Transport & Storage

Durham County Council

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-001510

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0601fb

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Scope

Reference

001291

Description

The Council wishes to develop a Select Provider List for HM Coroner Removals, Transport and Storage.

This opportunity is primarily for the removal and transport of the deceased from the place of death, within the boundaries of County Durham and Darlington, to one of the following nominated mortuaries:

- Darlington Memorial Hospital
- University Hospital of North Durham
- Newcastle Freeman Hospital

There may also be a requirement of body storage should the above mortuaries exceed capacity. Providers will be asked if they are able to offer storage (in line with paragraph 2.1 - Lot 3 of the specification) at the request of the Senior Coroner.

Durham County Council is seeking multiple Providers who can deliver the service(s) specified and the Select Provider List has THREE Lots (each Lot is divided into sub-lots relating to geographical areas) as detailed below based on category required.

Bidders can apply for one, two, or all three lots.

The Select Provider List is an open agreement where, at any time, any Provider that meets the required standards in the Selection Questionnaire can bid. However, should the Council deem there be sufficient providers to meet need then the Select Provider List may be closed and re-opened as required. The Council has the discretion to open and close selected Lots and not all Lots should it choose to. However, at the discretion of the Council, the Select Provider List may remain closed should commissioners deem there be sufficient members to meet demand.

The Council makes no guarantee to any Provider that they will be awarded any work under this Select Provider List and no guarantee is made in respect of any volume of work under any such agreement, or in aggregate under the contract. The Contract provides for no form of exclusivity and the Council is at all times entitled to enter into other contracts and agreements with other Providers for the provision of any of these Services.

Each Provider should understand that their submission constitutes an acceptance to the Council of the terms of the Contract. The contract affords the Provider merely the opportunity to respond to an invitation from the Council for the provision of services.

Total value (estimated)

- £3,000,000 excluding VAT
- £3,600,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 10 February 2026 to 31 December 2029

- Possible extension to 31 December 2035
- 9 years, 10 months, 19 days

Description of possible extension:

3 periods of 24 months each subject to commissioner and budget approval.

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

The Council reserve the right to modify the specification:

- If new legislation and/or guidance regarding the Removal, Transport and/or Storage of the Deceased is published by the governing bodies / relevant organisations.
- Designated Hospital Mortuaries may change as to what is detailed in Appendix 2 - Contract Areas Designated Mortuaries within the 3A Specification.
- Usage may increase/decrease subject to demand.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 98370000 - Funeral and related services

Contract locations

- UKC13 - Darlington

- UKC14 - Durham CC

Lot 1. Body Removal

Description

Lot 1 Area 1 Easington

Lot 1 Area 2 Durham City

Lot 1 Area 3 Chester le Street

Lot 1 Area 4 Derwentside

Lot 1 Area 5 Wear Valley

Lot 1 Area 6 Teesdale

Lot 1 Area 7 Sedgefield

Lot 1 Area 8 Darlington

Lot value (estimated)

- £1,250,000 excluding VAT
- £1,500,000 including VAT

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations, contract dates and options are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot 2. Body Transport

Description

Lot 2 Area 1 Easington

Lot 2 Area 2 Durham City

Lot 2 Area 3 Chester le Street

Lot 2 Area 4 Derwentside

Lot 2 Area 5 Wear Valley

Lot 2 Area 6 Teesdale

Lot 2 Area 7 Sedgefield

Lot 2 Area 8 Darlington

Lot value (estimated)

- £1,250,000 excluding VAT
- £1,500,000 including VAT

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations, contract dates and options are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot 3. Body Storage

Description

Lot 3 Area 1 Easington

Lot 3 Area 2 Durham City

Lot 3 Area 3 Chester le Street

Lot 3 Area 4 Derwentside

Lot 3 Area 5 Wear Valley

Lot 3 Area 6 Teesdale

Lot 3 Area 7 Sedgefield

Lot 3 Area 8 Darlington

Lot value (estimated)

- £500,000 excluding VAT
- £600,000 including VAT

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations, contract dates and options are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Participation

Particular suitability

Lot 1. Body Removal

Lot 2. Body Transport

Lot 3. Body Storage

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Tender submission deadline

9 February 2026, 10:00am

Submission address and any special instructions

<https://www.open-uk.org> using reference OPEN20251669

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Each Provider should understand that their submission constitutes an acceptance to the Council of the terms of the Contract. The contract affords the Provider merely the opportunity to respond to an invitation from the Council for the provision of services.

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

10 February 2026

Recurring procurement

Publication date of next tender notice (estimated): 1 August 2035

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type
price	Pass/Fail	Price
Quality	Essential Pass Fail for contract specific criteria	Quality

Weighting description

Pass/Fail Criteria for both price and contract specific essential criteria

Other information

Description of risks to contract performance

Permitted changes that may occur

Designated Hospital Mortuaries may change as to what is detailed in Appendix 2 - Contract Areas Designated Mortuaries within the 3A Specification.

Coronial geographical area responsibility may change.

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Documents

Associated tender documents

<https://www.open-uk.org/>

Tender Documents for HM Coroner Removals, Transport & Storage Select List can be accessed free of charge at www.open-uk.org using reference - OPEN20251669

Contracting authority

Durham County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PMPB-8772-VYWM

Corten House, Dunholme Close

Durham

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United Kingdom

Email: corporate.procurement@durham.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.durham.gov.uk/>

Region: UKC14 - Durham CC

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government