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Contract

WMCA Connect To Work - Black Country

West Midlands Combined Authority

UK7: Contract details notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-005260

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0511cc ([view related notices](#))

Published 21 January 2026, 12:36pm

Scope

Reference

2730488

Description

West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA), in partnership with City of Wolverhampton Council, Dudley MBC, Sandwell, MBC and Walsall MBC are pleased to announce their intention to procure Supported Employment provision for disabled residents, residents with long-term health conditions, and other agreed disadvantaged groups with complex barriers to sustain work.

Set out in the Adults Skills and Employment Functional Strategy [https://governance.wmca.org.uk/documents/s23891/Appendix 3 Functional Strategies Merged.pdf](https://governance.wmca.org.uk/documents/s23891/Appendix%203%20Functional%20Strategies%20Merged.pdf), our ambition is to develop an integrated employment and skills system that stimulates economic growth and delivers better outcomes for residents and businesses. Central to realising this is the flexibility we have secured as part of our deeper devolution deal, which gives the WMCA further policy influence with our system partners DWP and DfE, and control over adult skills and employment spending through the Integrated

Settlement.

The opportunity created by the Get Britain Working White Paper paves the way for further devolved responsibility for employment support working in partnership with DWP. Demonstrated through a devolved role in supported employment through the new Connect to Work programme and stronger role in partnership with DWP to deliver better outcomes for residents, it will further enable us to deliver our ambition for an integrated system that meets residents' needs, especially those disadvantaged in the labour market through ill health or disability, in alignment with the region's three Integrated Care Board's WorkWell pilots.

Through Integrated Settlement, WMCA has secured £5.72million to support up to 1400 participants to sustain work through the delivery of Individual Placement & Support (IPS) and Supported Employment Quality Framework (SEQF) models in 2025-26, with the potential to extend and scale up delivery in subsequent years. WMCA's Adult Skills & Employment Functional Strategy is available online through the following link: <https://www.wmca.org.uk/documents/integrated-settlement/adult-skills-employment-functional-strategy/> with WMCA's approach to Connect to Work outlined in the Connect to Work Business Justification Case found here: <https://governance.wmca.org.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=135&MId=1228&Ver=4>

Contract 2

Supplier

- The Shaw Trust Limited

Contract value

- £1,902,721 excluding VAT
- £2,283,265.20 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

Date signed

16 January 2026

Contract dates

- 16 January 2026 to 31 March 2027
- Possible extension to 31 March 2028
- 2 years, 2 months, 16 days

Description of possible extension:

From 1st April 2026 potential variation and extension to deliver Phase 3 and Phase 4 (1st April 2026 to 31st March 2028)

Phase 3 = 12 months (Engagement & Support)

Phase 4 = 12 months (Support only)

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80000000 - Education and training services

Contract locations

- UKG38 - Walsall
- UKG39 - Wolverhampton
- UKG36 - Dudley
- UKG37 - Sandwell

Key performance indicators

| Name | Description | Reporting frequency |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| Programme Starts | A minimum number of 565 young people who start on the programme and successfully complete their vocational profile meeting by March 2026. | 1 months |
| Out of Work First Earnings | Number of out of work participants who achieve first earnings within 456 calendar days from the participants programme start date or if extended up to 638 calendar days from the start date | 1 months |
| Lower Threshold Out of work outcome | Number of out of work participants who achieve a lower threshold outcome measured as 9 hours x 13 weeks x NLW and self employed equivalent measured over 13 cumulative weeks | 1 months |
| Higher threshold out of work outcome | Threshold outcome measured as 18 hours x 26 weeks x NLW and self employed equivalent measured over 26 cumulative weeks | 1 months |
| Higher threshold in work outcome | Number of in work participants who sustain 26 weeks of consecutive employment from the point of the participants programme start. | |
| Number of employment specialists | Number of employments specialists in post each month | 1 months |

Participation

This procurement was reserved for

Supported employment providers

Submission

Submission type

Requests to participate

Procedure

Procedure type

Competitive flexible procedure

Supplier

The Shaw Trust Limited

- Companies House: 01744121

Black Country House, Rounds Green Road

Oldbury

B69 2DG

United Kingdom

Email: customercare@shaw-trust.org.uk

Website: <https://shawtrust.org.uk/>

Region: UKG37 - Sandwell

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): Yes

Contract 2

Contracting authority

West Midlands Combined Authority

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PGMD-1353-PZVX

16 Summer Lane

Birmingham

B19 3SD

United Kingdom

Email: procurement.team@wmca.org.uk

Website: <http://www.WMCA.org.uk>

Region: UKG31 - Birmingham

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government

Other organisations

These organisations are carrying out the procurement, or part of it, on behalf of the contracting authorities.

City of Wolverhampton Council

Summary of their role in this procurement: Evaluation of Tenders

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVBV-7568-LBLL

Civic Centre, St Peters Square

Wolverhampton

WV1 1SH

United Kingdom

Email: Julie.obada@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Region: UKG39 - Wolverhampton

Walsall MBC

Summary of their role in this procurement: Evaluation of Tenders

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHGR-7481-DHXR

Civic Centre

Walsall

WS1 1XU

United Kingdom

Email: jane.kaur-gill@walsall.gov.uk

Region: UKG38 - Walsall

Dudley MBC

Summary of their role in this procurement: Evalauton of Tenders

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PWYJ-3537-GLBW

The Council House Priory Road

Dudley

DY1 1HF

United Kingdom

Email: Viv.webb@dudley.gov.uk

Region: UKG36 - Dudley

Sandwell MBC

Summary of their role in this procurement: Evaluation of Tenders

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PJHD-8764-YRJJ

Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street

Oldbury

B69 3DE

United Kingdom

Email: Kelly.Harris@Sandwell.gov.uk

Region: UKG37 - Sandwell

Contact organisation

Contact West Midlands Combined Authority for any enquiries.