

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/007378-2025>

Pipeline

Connect To Work

North East Combined Authority

UK1: Pipeline notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-007378

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04e851 ([view related notices](#))

Published 27 February 2025, 11:51am

Scope

Reference

OPEN2025178

Description

This notification / Prior Information Notice (PIN) / update is intended to alert providers to an opportunity to deliver the Connect to Work programme for the North East Combined Authority (North East CA).

The e-tendering system used by the North East CA is Open. Potential applicants for Connect to Work are encouraged to register on Open as soon as possible. It is free to register and use the system.

You will need to create an account on Open to access and bid for public sector opportunities issued by the North East Combined Authority, including this Connect to Work opportunity. Visit www.open-uk.org to register an account.

The Open Hub provides resources and information to help you get the most out of Open. There is an FAQ section and a range of how-to guides so you can familiarise yourself with

the system at your own pace. Visit the Open Hub to find out more, or contact open.support@nepo.org

Connect to Work

The recently launched "Get Britain Working" White Paper outlines Government's strategy to invest £240m to support the ambition of a national 80% employment rate and help improve workplace health and keep people in work, including trials of combined public services for those out of work due to ill health. Connect to Work is the first major element of the Get Britain Working Strategy.

By encouraging join-up between health systems and employment support, Connect to Work will support those, primarily, currently outside the workforce and facing greater labour market disadvantages, to stay in work and get back into work. In turn, supporting the Government's ambition for a more inclusive economy, supporting local people to realise their potential and supporting local and national growth. Connect to Work funding will support around 100,000 disabled people with health conditions and those with complex barriers to get into employment and on in work. In the North East, Connect to Work will support 13,500 residents across the entirety of the programme.

The North East Combined Authority is the Accountable Body for Connect to Work in the North East and, working in partnership with the seven constituent local authorities, is responsible for the commissioning of Connect to Work delivery.

Connect to Work is a voluntary programme, delivering the evidence-based Supported Employment model, 'place, train, and maintain', via two different types of interventions based on the needs of the participant - Individual Placement and Support (IPS) and Local Supported Employment (LSE). This opportunity relates to the IPS intervention only.

Commercial tool

Establishes a dynamic market

Total value (estimated)

- £30,000,000 including VAT

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 August 2025 to 31 March 2028
- Possible extension to 31 March 2030
- 4 years, 8 months

Main category

Services

CPV classifications

- 75131000 - Government services
- 79634000 - Career guidance services
- 80521000 - Training programme services

Contract locations

- UKC - North East (England)

Participation

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

20 March 2025

Procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Contracting authority

North East Combined Authority

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PJMR-6594-BRGH

The Lumen, St James' Boulevard

Newcastle Upon Tyne

NE4 5BZ

United Kingdom

Contact name: Diane Stobbs

Email: procurement@northeast-ca.gov.uk

Region: UKC22 - Tyneside

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government