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Tender

Invitation to Tender for Provision of Catering Services (Framework Agreement) at Pendle Education Trust

PENDLE EDUCATION TRUST

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

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-011745

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-060854 ([view related notices](#))

Published 10 February 2026, 11:20am

Scope

Description

Pendle Education Trust (PET) have decided to tender their catering services contract to investigate the financial and qualitative benefits they could be offered through this process.

Services include catering provision for 3 Primary Schools and 2 Secondary Schools Mon-Fri term time (190 days). Approximately 678 primary School meals are served daily and Secondary income is circa 2k per day combined. All Schools have existing kitchens and staff, with good equipment.

Here is a little information about the Trust's strategy, taken from their website Pendle Education Trust - Home

"Our Trust has the opportunity to influence and shape the children in our family to reach their full potential and more. We have over 2200 (2019-20) children in our schools, three primary and two secondary, with over 300 staff dedicated to their education and wellbeing. We are committed to the communities in which we work and recognise the uniqueness of each of these five communities with the local area in which we chose to work. Whilst we have ambition to increase the size of our family this will not be growth

without thought. We are committed to working in our local area and to reaping the benefits of being geographically close - all schools are all within a thirteen-mile radius. We intend to protect our schools and ensure that we do not destabilise our family when we do grow. We have the support of our sponsor, Nelson & Colne College to ensure that we are relentless in our focus on the teaching and learning experience of our children and the improved opportunities this will bring to their lives."

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Total value (estimated)

- £2,190,578 excluding VAT
- £2,628,694 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 September 2026 to 31 August 2029
- Possible extension to 31 August 2031
- 5 years

Description of possible extension:

2 x 12 month optional extension

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 55524000 - School catering services

Contract locations

- UKD4 - Lancashire

Framework

Maximum number of suppliers

Unlimited

Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers

0%

Framework operation description

Internal Framework Agreement for Trust to enable any new Schools joining to engage the awarded contractor, within the contract terms & duration, including any extensions.

There will be no further market engagement or tender process required within the initial contract period and any extensions.

There will be no cost for joining schools to award the contract via the Framework.

Any schools joining the Framework will expect the same delivery standard, as outlines in the ITT & Contract,

Award method when using the framework

Without competition

Contracting authorities that may use the framework

Establishing party only

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

1 April 2026, 4:00pm

Tender submission deadline

3 April 2026, 4:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

<https://redboxportal.com/>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

8 May 2026

Recurring procurement

Publication date of next tender notice (estimated): 1 February 2031

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Commercial Submission	The Trust shall be under no obligation to accept the lowest of any tender prices submitted hereunder. Full points will be awarded to best value in terms of profit/subsidy (*Commercial Submission- Max 150) with scaled deductions for other bids. We also ask for a 3-year budget projection within this section.	Cost	50%
Quality	Within this evaluation framework the Trust have emphasised the importance of food quality & menu flexibility/inclusivity with meals that demonstrate value for money. They need a strong management support system to ensure compliance with tender bid, provide continuous improvement & innovation. Sustainability & Social Value are also important to the Trust, as is a well-supported Mobilisation with care and empathy demonstrated towards the team. 12 questions have been weighted for scoring in partnership with the Trust. Red Box will evaluate responses and award a score following the matrix	Quality	50%

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
	<p>below: 5-Excellent - Exceeds requirements significantly with clear added value. 4-Good - Meets all requirements with some added value. 3- Satisfactory - Meets minimum requirements with no significant added value. 2-Weak - Fails to meet some key requirements; improvement needed. 1-Poor - Does not meet key requirements or lacks sufficient evidence.</p>		

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Contracting authority

PENDLE EDUCATION TRUST

- Companies House: 08263591
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PRJP-2224-TJHM

Nelson And Colne College

Nelson

BB9 7YT

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@pendleeducationtrust.co.uk

Region: UKD46 - East Lancashire

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government

Other organisation

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

RED BOX CONSULTANCY SERVICES LIMITED

Summary of their role in this procurement: Contractor engagement, creation of ITT and supporting docs, hosting site visits, evaluating bids & presentations

- Companies House: 05126781
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDBY-5265-PHLM

1 Innisfree Close

North Yorkshire

HG2 8PL

United Kingdom

Email: admin@redboxcs.com

Region: UKE22 - North Yorkshire CC

Contact organisation

Contact RED BOX CONSULTANCY SERVICES LIMITED for any enquiries.