

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/012235-2025>

Planning

retender Greater Essex Individual Placement and Support for Severe Mental Illness (IPS for SMI)

Essex County Council

UK2: Preliminary market engagement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-012235

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04fb48 ([view related notices](#))

Published 1 April 2025, 1:00pm

Scope

Reference

DN769504

Description

Essex County Council as lead commissioner is seeking to procure a service for Individual Placement and Support for Serious Mental Illness (IPS for SMI). The IPS for SMI is an employment support service integrated with secondary care mental health services to assist people who experience severe mental health conditions to find paid work. ECC is the lead commissioner for this service on behalf of the three ICBs in Essex, namely Mid and South Essex (MSE), Hertfordshire and West Essex (HWE), and Suffolk and North East Essex (SNEE). Please note that this service will not cover Hertfordshire or Suffolk. For the purposes of this procurement, this service is an ALL Essex service, which includes the Unitary Authorities of Southend and Thurrock.

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2028
- Possible extension to 31 August 2030
- 5 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

Contract locations

- UKH - East of England

Engagement

Engagement deadline

8 April 2025

Engagement process description

Essex County Council are now planning to release the tender for this service after the abandonment of the previous tender (Reference: DN741370) following market feedback on the viability of the financial envelope and the targets. In response, the Council and ICB partners sought to engage with the market and understand how the service could be delivered in a viable way.

The key feedback we received was the target level was too high and the budget envelope was too low. In response, we have taken the feedback from providers around what would be deliverable and re-designed the contract ahead of re-releasing the tender.

Essex County Council ("the Council") would like to invite prospective providers to attend a pre-tender market engagement event on Tuesday 8th April 2025. Please note that this event will be conducted online via MS Teams at 1300-1400. If your organisation would like to attend the event, please email elizabeth.willis@essex.gov.uk, confirming the name of your organisation and your representatives. Please ensure that you confirm your attendance by Monday 7th April 2025 by 1600.

A link to the Teams meeting will be sent by close of play Monday 7th.

Attendance or non-attendance does not bestow an advantage or disadvantage on any provider when the competitive tender process commences.

YOU MAY RESPOND IN AN EMAIL WITH YOUR NAME, ORGANISATION, AND EMAIL

- NAME
- ORGANISATION
- EMAIL

Procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Contracting authority

Essex County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PWVM-4844-NRQH

County Hall, Market Road

Chelmsford

CM1 1QH

United Kingdom

Email: jon.rockstad@essex.gov.uk

Region: UKH36 - Heart of Essex

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government