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Tender

Stowmarket Recreation Ground Play Area Development

Stowmarket Town Council

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-013674

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

Published 8 April 2025, 2:14pm

Scope

Description

Stowmarket Town Council invites tenders for the design, supply, and installation of a new 40m x 40m play area at Stowmarket Recreation Ground. The play area will be enclosed by secure metal fencing, square in shape but with graded, sweeping rounded corners.

Safety surfacing will cover at least 75% of the total play area to ensure accessibility and compliance with all relevant safety standards, allowing for year-round use. The play space should be suitable for children aged 0-12 years.

The appointed contractor will be responsible for the design, supply and installation of the following:

Play equipment suitable for children aged 0-12 years and will specifically include swinging, bouncing, climbing, and sliding activities.

A central focal play structure which serves as a landmark attraction.

Safety surfacing compliant with BS EN 1177 or the applicable standard at the time of installation.

Secure 1.0-metre-high play-spec Bow Top metal fencing, galvanised and powder-coated

black, with two gated entrances. This includes two pedestrian self-closing gates (1.0m high x 1.0m wide) complete with a closing device and powder-coated black box-section gate posts.

Seating, including a minimum of six benches on the inner outskirts of the play area, with additional seating integrated within and around the play equipment.

Utilise a black, white, red, and green colour palette, along with additional design elements to enhance and reinforce the theme. The preferred safety surfacing colours are black and green to manage colour degradation in future years.

Signage to indicate it is the Poppy Play Area with the design to include red and white poppies.

Inclusive and Accessible Design

The play area must cater for children of all abilities.

The site should be divided into zones for younger children 0-3 years (Infants and toddlers), 4-7 years (Early childhood) and 8-12 years (Older children).

The design should include accessible equipment that provides inclusive play opportunities, ensuring children of all abilities, including those with and without disabilities, can play together.

All elements of the scheme must meaningfully contribute to the following core play activities:

Swinging, Climbing, Sliding, Bouncing

Preparation and Groundworks

Contractors must ensure proper site preparation, including:

Levelling and preparation of the ground.

Installation of appropriate drainage systems.

Identification and protection of underground services

Integration of works with separate works required for security and lighting at the Recreation Ground.

Technical Requirements & Standards

All play equipment and surfacing must comply with BS EN 1176 and BS EN 1177 standards (or the applicable standard at the time of installation.)

The design must adhere to Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) guidelines for accessibility.

Contractors must demonstrate an approach to environmental sustainability, including:

Use of sustainable materials.

Eco-friendly manufacturing and transport.

Ethical waste disposal practices.

Safety surfacing shall be fully compliant with current British safety standards.

Whilst there is no preferred finish, loose-fill surfacing will not be accepted and details of the preparation of the sub-base should be included within the tender. All new surfacing must be installed on a properly prepared sub-base, not directly onto soil.

Site Visits

Contractors can arrange a site visit on the 23rd, 24th, or 25th of April 2025 at their own expense. Alternatively, another date can be arranged by prior agreement. The visit allows contractors to assess access, measurements, and surrounding conditions. To book a site visit, call 01449 612060 or email info@stowmarket.org. Only contractors who have conducted a site visit will be eligible to submit a tender.

Project Name:

Stowmarket Recreation Ground Play Area Development.

Location:

Stowmarket Recreation Ground, Recreation Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 1PR.
(What3words: indulges.rather.annual)

Budget:

£350,000 - £370,000 plus VAT

Project Lead:

Karl Daniels, Head of Community Services, Stowmarket Town Council.
karld@stowmarket.org

Construction Timeline:

Winter 2025 - Spring 2026

(preferred from mid-November 2025 with completion March 2026)

Total value (estimated)

- £370,000 excluding VAT
- £444,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 12 November 2025 to 31 March 2026
- 4 months, 19 days

Main procurement category

Works

CPV classifications

- 37535100 - Swings
- 37535200 - Playground equipment
- 37535210 - Playground swings
- 37535220 - Playground climbing apparatus
- 37535230 - Playground merry go rounds

- 37535240 - Playground slides
- 37535250 - Playground see saws
- 37535292 - Rope climbing equipment
- 45236210 - Flatwork for children's play area
- 71500000 - Construction-related services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Participation

Legal and financial capacity conditions of participation

Contract award subject funding

Technical ability conditions of participation

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Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Tender submission deadline

23 May 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

Tender Submission Requirements

Tenders must be submitted as a fixed-price lump sum plus VAT, guaranteed for 12 months, using the provided Form of Tender.

All tender documentation must be returned by the deadline shown below.

The tender should include an A1 size (or similar) visual image of the play area and an electronic image of the play area which can be shown on screen as part of the Evaluation session.

Submission format:

Sealed envelope marked "TENDER FOR STOWMARKET RECREATION GROUND PLAY AREA".

Sent to: Head of Community Services, Stowmarket Town Council, Milton House, Milton Road South, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 1EZ.

Submission deadline: 12 Noon on Friday, 23rd May 2025.

Late submissions will not be considered.

Tenders may be submitted electronically

No

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

10 October 2025

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Play Value & Design	Play Value & Design (40%) • Quality of design and alignment with core facilities in the specification. • Play value and inclusivity. • Appeal, attractiveness, and inventiveness of design at ground level.	Quality	40%
Construction & Durability	Construction & Durability (20%) • Material durability and resistance to anti-social behaviour. • Sourcing details for addressing damage to flooring and play equipment.	Quality	20%

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Inclusivity	Inclusivity (10%) • Fulfilment of accessibility standards. • Inclusion of play equipment and experiences that cater to a diverse range of needs.	Quality	10%
Sustainability	Sustainability (10%) • Quality Tenderers must submit an Environmental Statement outlining how they and their suppliers are minimising environmental impact, including: Sourcing of materials. Manufacturing processes. Packaging. Transport. Disposal and end-of-life product options.	Quality	10%
Pricing & Value for money	Pricing & Value for Money (10%) Cost-effectiveness of the proposal in relation to quality and longevity.	Price	10%
References	References (10%) • Proven experience in delivering similar projects.	Quality	10%

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Documents

Associated tender documents

[Stowmarket Town Council Recreation Ground Development Project - Form of Tender 080425.pdf](#)

Tender Document and form of Tender

[Stowmarket Town Council Recreation Ground Development Project - Tender Document 080425.pdf](#)

Contracting authority

Stowmarket Town Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVWH-4449-MRTX

Milton Road South

Stowmarket

IP141EZ

United Kingdom

Contact name: SALLY GOONAN

Telephone: 01449612060

Email: info@stowmarket.org

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

Region: UKH14 - Suffolk

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government