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Tender

Fresh Butchered Meat and Poultry and Associated Products (2026 - 2030)

THE UNIVERSITY CATERERS ORGANISATION LIMITED

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

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-014891

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-051a8e ([view related notices](#))

Published 18 February 2026, 3:34pm

Scope

Reference

CAT11083-TU

Description

The purpose of this planned procurement is to establish a (closed) framework for the supply and distribution of fresh butchered meat and poultry (and associated products) to members and clients of TUCO Ltd (Universities, Colleges and the wider Public Sector).

This procurement follows an Open Procedure under Procurement Act 2023. The duration of this (closed) framework is planned to be a maximum of 4 years. The annual spend through the (closed) Framework is estimated at £8 million. The total spend through the (closed) framework (over the maximum 4 years) is estimated at £32 million.

The scope of products to be covered in the framework are as follows but not limited to:

- Fresh Butchered Meat Pork, Lamb, Beef, Ox, Veal: Joints, cuts, fillets, carcasses & whole animals for catering courses

- Game: Venison, Rabbit, Pheasant etc.
- Sundries: e.g. Butchers String & nets
- Processed meats: Haggis, Sausages, Black Pudding, Bacon, Gammon, Burgers, pre-prepared kebabs, Chorizo etc.
- Pre-prepared items: Prepped, filled and coated meats (e.g. Chicken Kiev), Cooked Meats, Specialty pies, pâtés
- Poultry: Chicken, Turkey, Duck; Poussin
- Specialty Eggs: Duck and Quail
- Religious options including: Halal and Kosher
- Special Diets: Gluten free sausages etc.
- Welfare options including but not limited to: Red Tractor, RSPCA Assured, Better Chicken Commitment, Organic, Higher Welfare, Welsh PGI etc

Butchery Service where required:

A small number of university members have their own farms / rear their own animals require a butchery service arrangement where bidders have the capacity and capability to administer the successful delivery of animals from member institution farms via an abattoir, or members' choice (or abattoir) and cut to members' specifications per animal. The level of service required would be detailed within any further competitions. This is a would like to have but not a strict requirement of the framework and all bidding suppliers will be asked whether they can provide this level of butchery service but will not be penalised if this is a service they cannot provide.

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Total value (estimated)

- £32,000,000 excluding VAT

- £38,400,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 11 May 2026 to 10 May 2028
- Possible extension to 10 May 2030
- 4 years

Description of possible extension:

The initial duration of the Framework is 2 years, with option to extend annually until 10/05/2030. TUCO reserve the right to extend lots by varying durations.

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 15100000 - Animal products, meat and meat products

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Framework

Maximum number of suppliers

Unlimited

Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers

1.35%

Further information about fees

Full details are available in the tender documents which are available on <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/tuco.aspx/Home>

Framework operation description

Refer to the tender documents which are available on <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/tuco.aspx/Home>

Award method when using the framework

Either with or without competition

Contracting authorities that may use the framework

Members of the following purchasing organisations: 1. The University Caterers Organisation Limited (TUCO): <https://account.tuco.ac.uk/delrvdkzggmjfhudksgs> 2. North Eastern Universities Purchasing Consortium (NEUPC) 3. Advanced Procurement for Universities and Colleges (APUC) 4. Higher Education Purchasing Consortium Wales (HEPCW) 5. London Universities Purchasing Consortium (LUPC) 6. North Western Universities Purchasing Consortium (NWUPC) 7. Southern Universities Procurement Consortium (SUPC) 8. Crescent Purchasing Consortium (CPC) 9. Local authorities 10. Central Government departments and their agencies 11. Police, fire and rescue, maritime and coastguard agency emergency services 12. NHS bodies, the HSC (Northern

Ireland) and ambulance services 13. Schools, Educational establishments and Higher Education in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland For full details refer to Appendix R - Framework Permissible Users for details of contracting authorities that may use the Framework

Contracting authority location restrictions

- UK - United Kingdom
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Submission

Enquiry deadline

17 March 2026, 11:59pm

Tender submission deadline

23 March 2026, 10:00am

Submission address and any special instructions

Complete set of tender document are available through the web address: <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/tuco.aspx/Home>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

27 April 2026

Recurring procurement

Publication date of next tender notice (estimated): 15 January 2030

Award criteria

Name	Type	Weighting
Fresh Butchered Meat and Poultry and Associated Products	Quality	55%
Fresh Butchered Meat and Poultry and Associated Products	Price	45%

Other information**Conflicts assessment prepared/revised**

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Documents

Associated tender documents

[Appendix R - Framework Permissible Users TUCO.docx](#)

Complete set of tender document are available through the web address: <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/tuco.aspx/Home>

Contracting authority

THE UNIVERSITY CATERERS ORGANISATION LIMITED

- Companies House: 06124779

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Manchester

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United Kingdom

Email: info@tuco.ac.uk

Region: UKD33 - Manchester

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government