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Planning

BwD Information and Advice Service

Blackburn with Darwen

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

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-015280

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-065843

Published 19 February 2026, 2:11pm

Scope

Description

Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council is looking to procure for an All-Age Carers Service and an Information and Advice Service, as part of its Happy Healthy and Well (prevention) offer, and is holding an in-person pre-market engagement event on Thursday 19 March 2026.

The event aims to develop a clearer understanding of the market and gather insight into supplier capabilities, innovations, and delivery models for the provision of support services in Blackburn with Darwen.

The sessions will also support providers in understanding procurement requirements, social value commitments, and will help inform the development of value-driven service specifications.

The engagement event will cover both of the following separate service areas:

> ALL AGE CARERS SERVICE - Commission 1 (The Chest ref no: DN807429)

> INFORMATION AND ADVICE SERVICE - Commission 2 (This commission; The Chest ref no: DN807446):

Both commissions are distinct and will operate independently.

However, providers will be expected to demonstrate strong connectivity with the borough's VCFSE and health networks, in order to complement and strengthen the wider VCFSE infrastructure.

The market engagement event will cover both commissions.

BACKGROUND

All Age Carers Service:

The aim of this service is to provide a comprehensive offer of support - including groups, activities, guidance and interventions - to those who have caring responsibilities for someone in Blackburn with Darwen. This will be available to carers of all ages, including young carers (5-15 years); young adult carer (16-18 years), and adult carers (18+ years).

Information and Advice Service:

The aim of this service is to support residents to identify services, groups, and support offers that enable them to maintain their independence. It will support the Council's strengths-based approach and form a core element of the local prevention offer, supporting individuals to build on their own capabilities and reducing on reliance on statutory services.

MEETING INFORMATION

The pre-market engagement event, which will cover both commissions, will be held in-person on:

Thursday 19 March 2026, at:

Livesey Family Hub

Andrew Close

Blackburn

BB2 4NU

The event will run from 10:00 - 12:00.

REGISTRATION

If you would like to attend the pre-market engagement meeting, please complete the below Microsoft Form to register yourself for the event:

<https://forms.office.com/e/nimp6mNVhW>

Each attendee who wishes to attend should register individually.

Due to capacity, a maximum of 2 people per organisation may attend.

Registration closes at 12:00 noon on Wednesday 18th March 2026.

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Total value (estimated)

- £1,242,800 excluding VAT
- £1,491,360 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 October 2026 to 30 September 2029
- Possible extension to 30 September 2031
- 5 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 98000000 - Other community, social and personal services

Contract locations

- UKD41 - Blackburn with Darwen

Engagement

Engagement deadline

19 March 2026

Engagement process description

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The engagement event will cover the following separate service areas:

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Participation

Particular suitability

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

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

1 June 2026

Procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Contracting authority

Blackburn with Darwen

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PYGR-1856-CVXM

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Blackburn

BB2 1DH

United Kingdom

Contact name: Joe Roscow

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

Region: UKD41 - Blackburn with Darwen

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government