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Award

Connect to Work Programme

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority

UK6: Contract award notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-015652

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-05ec2f ([view related notices](#))

Published 20 February 2026, 12:21pm

Scope

Reference

DN799123

Description

The Authority is delivering the Connect to Work Programme as part of new Mayoral powers to convene local supported employment provision that contributes to the national Get Britain Working plan and the Local Growth Plan.

Connect to Work is a new, voluntary supported employment initiative funded by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). It is the first major element of the Get Britain Working Strategy and will take a collaborative, locally led approach

It will:

- Connect local work, health, and skills support using a “place, train, maintain” model.
- Target “hidden unemployment” and disadvantaged groups.

- Deliver IPS (Individual Placement and Support) and SEQF (Supported Employment Quality Framework) interventions with high fidelity to national models.
- Ensure equitable access through a zero-exclusions approach.
- Support at least 3,738 residents between 2025 and 2030.

The Authority, as Lead Authority and Accountable Body for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, will commission, implement, and manage Connect to Work. Delivery will align with local priorities and be supported through partnerships with health services and other stakeholders

The Authority seeks to award a single contract to an experienced Supplier to manage a specialist supply chain and deliver 3,738 Connect to Work Programme starts, along with associated job starts and outcomes, between contract commencement and 31 March 2030.

The successful Supplier will be responsible for:

- Building and managing a specialist, local supply chain of delivery partners.
- Ensuring access to, and engagement with, the targeted Connect to Work participants.
- Overall delivery of both IPS (Individual Placement and Support model) and SEQF (Support Employment Quality Framework) support to the IPS and SEQF fidelity scales² at the required volumes and profiles as detailed in this Specification.

Contract 1. Connect to Work Programme

Supplier

- Cambridgeshire County Council

Contract value

- £12,291,042 excluding VAT
- £14,749,250.40 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Award decision date

19 February 2026

Date assessment summaries were sent to tenderers

19 February 2026

Earliest date the contract will be signed

3 March 2026

Contract dates (estimated)

- 31 March 2026 to 30 March 2028
- Possible extension to 30 March 2030
- 4 years

Description of possible extension:

From 31st March 2026 for 24 months + 12 months + 12 months.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 79611000 - Job search services
- 79634000 - Career guidance services
- 80521000 - Training programme services
- 80570000 - Personal development training services
- 79600000 - Recruitment services

Information about tenders

- 5 tenders received
- 1 tender assessed in the final stage:
 - 0 submitted by small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
 - 0 submitted by voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)
- 1 supplier awarded contracts
- 0 suppliers unsuccessful (details included for contracts over £5 million)

Submission

Submission type

Tenders

Procedure

Procedure type

Competitive flexible procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Supplier

Cambridgeshire County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PJVB-3262-VGVJ

New Shire Hall Emery Crescent Enterprise Campus

Huntingdon

PE28 4YE

United Kingdom

Email: procurementandcommercial@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/>

Region: UKH12 - Cambridgeshire CC

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 1. Connect to Work Programme

Contracting authority

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PBXV-5726-VWGJ

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority, 2nd floor, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street

Huntingdon

PE29 3TN

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Region: UKH12 - Cambridgeshire CC

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government