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Tender

## **ITT - Pride In Place Deliberative Engagement**

Maidstone Borough Council

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

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-017207

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-065ccb

Published 26 February 2026, 11:00am

### **Scope**

### **Description**

Maidstone Borough Council (“the Council”) invites tenders from suitably qualified and experienced organisations to design and deliver an independent, high-quality deliberative community engagement for the Park Wood & Senacre Pride in Place Programme.

The Council is seeking a partner capable of designing and facilitating a robust, representative and independently delivered process through which residents can meaningfully shape the 10-year Pride in Place Plan for their neighbourhood. The purpose of this procurement is not to undertake a traditional consultation exercise, but to establish a legitimate community mandate that will guide long-term governance and investment decisions.

Pride in Place is a flagship UK Government initiative providing £20 million of long-term investment over a ten-year period. Unlike short-term grant programmes or transactional engagement approaches, Pride in Place is designed to transfer meaningful influence into the hands of residents and embed community-led governance at the centre of place-based change.

The programme represents a shift away from reactive interventions toward sustained, generational change. It seeks to address structural drivers of local challenge through a decade-long investment strategy shaped, prioritised and stewarded by the community

itself. Achieving this requires a structured process through which residents are able to engage with balanced evidence, explore trade-offs, deliberate on competing priorities, and develop shared principles to inform strategic decision-making.

Central to this model is the establishment of a Neighbourhood Board - a community-led body comprising residents and local stakeholders. The Board will act as steward of the programme and oversee delivery across three core pillars:

- Building thriving places
- Strengthening communities
- Taking back control

The deliberative engagement commissioned through this tender will form the foundational evidence base and community mandate upon which the Board's 10-Year Pride in Place Plan and initial Investment Strategy will be developed. This includes establishing a representative and legitimate community voice, articulating shared values and long-term priorities, and producing a clear and actionable roadmap capable of guiding the Neighbourhood Board as it assumes its governance role.

For more information about this opportunity, please visit the Delta eSourcing portal at:

<https://www.delta-esourcing.com/tenders/UK-UK-Maidstone:-Social-research-services./A27Z7828F9>

To respond to this opportunity, please click here:

<https://www.delta-esourcing.com/respond/A27Z7828F9>

### **Total value (estimated)**

- £50,000 excluding VAT
- £60,000 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

### **Contract dates (estimated)**

- 30 April 2026 to 30 September 2026
- 5 months, 1 day

## **Main procurement category**

Services

## **CPV classifications**

- 79315000 - Social research services
- 79410000 - Business and management consultancy services

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## **Participation**

### **Particular suitability**

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

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## **Submission**

### **Enquiry deadline**

19 March 2026, 12:00pm

## Tender submission deadline

26 March 2026, 12:00pm

## Submission address and any special instructions

<https://www.kentbusinessportal.org.uk>

## Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

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## Award criteria

Name	Type	Weighting
Quality	Quality	50%
Cost	Cost	25%
Interview	Quality	25%

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## Procedure

### Procedure type

Below threshold - open competition

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## Contracting authority

## **Maidstone Borough Council**

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PGRT-5366-CGWY

Maidstone House, King Street

Maidstone

ME15 6JQ

United Kingdom

Contact name: James Hudson-Austin

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Region: UKJ45 - Mid Kent

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government