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Tender

Connect to Work Supported Employment Service in Dorset

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council

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

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-017995

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0564e6 ([view related notices](#))

Published 27 February 2026, 2:38pm

Scope

Reference

DN783821

Description

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council is seeking providers to deliver a new Dorset wide supported employment service 'Connect to Work Supported Employment Service in Dorset'.

Connect to Work is a new government-funded programme launched by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). It aims to help individuals who are economically inactive, unemployed, or at risk of losing their jobs due to disabilities, long-term health conditions or other complex barriers to employment. The program provides targeted support to eligible participants and employers, assisting participants in finding and maintaining good quality employment.

The programme will be managed and maintained by Skills & Learning Adult Community Education (S&LACE) on behalf of BCP Council and Dorset Council.

The tender opportunity is split into 2 different lots:

- Lot 1: Individual Placement and Support (IPS) delivery for any eligible out of work or in work participant
- Lot 2: Supported Employment Quality Framework (SEQF) delivery for adults with Learning Disabilities or complex barriers to employment

Anticipated start date is June 2026. The contract will be for four years with the option to extend for a further 2 years (1+1)

Commercial tool

Establishes an open framework

A series of frameworks with substantially the same terms. Awarded suppliers are carried over and new suppliers can bid.

Total value (estimated)

- £2,930,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 June 2026 to 31 May 2030
- Possible extension to 31 May 2032
- 6 years

Description of possible extension:

Options to extend are subject to satisfactory performance throughout the life of the contract and the Council's confirmation of funding availability (budget).

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 85000000 - Health and social work services

Contract locations

- UKK24 - Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole
 - UKK25 - Dorset
-

Lot 1. Individual Placement and Support (IPS) delivery for any eligible out of work or in work participant

Description

Lot 1 - Individual Placement and Support delivery for any eligible out of work or in work participant

Lot value (estimated)

- £1,650,000 including VAT

Framework lot values may be shared with other lots

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot 2. Supported Employment Quality Framework (SEQF) delivery for adults with learning disabilities or complex barriers to employment

Description

Lot 2 - Supported Employment Quality Framework (SEQF) delivery for adults with learning disabilities or complex barriers to employment

Lot value (estimated)

- £1,280,000 including VAT

Framework lot values may be shared with other lots

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Framework

Open framework scheme end date (estimated)

31 May 2032

Maximum number of suppliers

Unlimited

Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers

0%

Framework operation description

Invitations to participate

Award method when using the framework

Either with or without competition

Contracting authorities that may use the framework

Establishing party only

Participation

Particular suitability

Lot 1. Individual Placement and Support (IPS) delivery for any eligible out of work or in

work participant

Lot 2. Supported Employment Quality Framework (SEQF) delivery for adults with learning disabilities or complex barriers to employment

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

Submission

Enquiry deadline

13 March 2026, 11:59pm

Submission type

Tenders

Tender submission deadline

27 March 2026, 2:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

<http://www.supplyingthesouthwest.org.uk/>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

27 April 2026

Award criteria

Name	Type	Weighting
Quality	Quality	90%
Price	Price	10%

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Competitive flexible procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Competitive flexible procedure description

Currently a 3 stage process:

Tender Compliance Checks

Quality Evaluation

Price Tender Submissions

Documents

Associated tender documents

<http://www.supplyingthesouthwest.org.uk/>

Contracting authority

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHY-7342-PRHH

BCP Council Civic Centre

Bournemouth

BH2 6DY

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Region: UKK24 - Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government