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Planning

Soft Market Testing - Provision of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Education for Unaccompanied Asylum-seeking Young people

Nottinghamshire County Council

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-023591

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0519d5

Published 21 May 2025, 9:53am

Scope

Reference

DN775496

Description

The Council is undertaking a soft market testing exercise and is asking organisations to submit comments & ideas to support and shape the development of the ESOL Education offer to unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people.

We have included some questions at the end of this document that should be completed on the response form and returned to us by 12 noon on Friday, 13th June 2025. The information and insight we obtain from this will then support the development of a tendering exercise later in the year.

The Virtual School and local authority have a statutory duty to ensure children who are looked after have access to appropriate education provision up to the age of 18 years old and this include children and young people who are unaccompanied and seeking asylum. The objective is to commission roll on roll off ESOL educational provision for unaccompanied young people seeking asylum who are unable to access a college setting due to local further education and small provider courses already being full.

Children and young people who are unaccompanied and seeking asylum can arrive in Nottinghamshire at any time during the year and this means that some young people arrive part way through the academic year when local colleges and settings are full. In order to enable our young people who are post-16 (aged 16-18 years) and arriving in Nottinghamshire part way through a year, additional ESOL education provision is required as locally courses are full within the autumn term. Therefore, there is a requirement for roll on roll off ESOL course to provide education to post-16 new arrivals until the end of the academic year when they will then be able to transition to a college setting the following September.

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Contract dates (estimated)

- 6 October 2025 to 5 October 2029
- 4 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80310000 - Youth education services

- 80580000 - Provision of language courses

Contract locations

- UKF15 - North Nottinghamshire
- UKF16 - South Nottinghamshire

Engagement

Engagement deadline

13 June 2025

Engagement process description

Responses should be sent via the portal by 12 noon on Friday, 13th June 2025.

Participation

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

1 September 2025

Procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Contracting authority

Nottinghamshire County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PBCV-5152-BXBP

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Region: UKF16 - South Nottinghamshire

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government