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Tender

Connect to Work

Lancashire County Council

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-026544

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05167a ([view related notices](#))

Published 23 May 2025, 2:38pm

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Scope

Reference

CR/CORP/LCC/25/202

Description

Connect to Work is a national scheme led by the DWP (Department for Work and Pensions) and is a supported employment programme targeted at specific groups of residents to enable sustained employment. The programme is focused on reversing the growth in Economic Inactivity and is targeted towards residents with health conditions and disabilities, as well as a number of groups to face barriers to gaining sustained employment, such as care leavers, carers, refugees, ex-offenders, and veterans, aligning with the Lancashire Economic Inactivity insights report, published in 2023.

Lancashire County Council will be the Accountable Body managing this project across the Lancashire area for the next 5 years. (Until 30th June 2030, includes extension periods).

Please see the tender documentation for further details.

Total value (estimated)

- £23,972,049 excluding VAT
- £28,766,459 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 5 September 2025 to 30 June 2029
- Possible extension to 30 June 2030
- 4 years, 9 months, 26 days

Description of possible extension:

At the end on the initial term of contract for all Lots (30th June 2029.) The Authority at its absolute discretion may seek to extend the contract (one or multiple Lots) by a maximum period of a further 12 months.

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

The Authority has the option to extend this agreement beyond the Initial Term by a further period up to a maximum of 12 months in addition to the Initial Term.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 79000000 - Business services: law, marketing, consulting, recruitment, printing and security

Contract locations

- UKD4 - Lancashire

Lot constraints

Maximum number of lots a supplier can be awarded: 2

Description of how multiple lots may be awarded:

Please see the tender documentation for further details.

Lot 1. Individual Placement and Support: East

Description

Connect to Work is a national scheme led by the DWP (Department for Work and Pensions) and is a supported employment programme targeted at specific groups of residents to enable sustained employment.

The programme is focused on reversing the growth in Economic Inactivity and is targeted towards residents with health conditions and disabilities, as well as a number of groups to

face barriers to gaining sustained employment, such as care leavers, carers, refugees, ex-offenders, and veterans, aligning with the Lancashire Economic Inactivity insights report, published in 2023.

The Authority is seeking secure a new multi-lotted contract for the external provision of IPS (Individual Placement Support) and SEQF (Supported Employment Quality Framework) as part of the Authority's Connect to Work project.

Lot 1 is based on IPS for the East geographical area of Lancashire. (Including delivery in the districts of Blackburn with Darwen, Burnley, Hyndburn, Pendle, Ribble Valley and Rossendale.)

The initial term of the contract commences on 5th September 2025 to 30th June 2029, with an option to extend for a further 12 months.

September to early October 2025 is anticipated to be the mobilisation period for service provider(s)

Delivery of support to allocated participants is estimated to commence in on the 6th October 2025 until 30th June 2029 as part of the initial contract terms, with option to extend this contract for a further 12 months.

Lot value (estimated)

- £7,336,781 excluding VAT
- £8,804,137 including VAT

Same for all lots

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

Lot 2. Individual Placement and Support: North

Description

Connect to Work is a national scheme led by the DWP (Department for Work and Pensions) and is a supported employment programme targeted at specific groups of residents to enable sustained employment.

The programme is focused on reversing the growth in Economic Inactivity and is targeted towards residents with health conditions and disabilities, as well as a number of groups to face barriers to gaining sustained employment, such as care leavers, carers, refugees, ex-offenders, and veterans, aligning with the Lancashire Economic Inactivity insights report, published in 2023.

The Authority is seeking secure a new multi-lotted contract for the external provision of IPS (Individual Placement Support) and SEQF (Supported Employment Quality Framework) as part of the Authority's Connect to Work project.

Lot 2 is based on IPS for the North geographical area of Lancashire. (Including delivery in the districts of Fylde, Lancaster and Wyre .)

The initial term of the contract commences on 5th September 2025 to 30th June 2029, with an option to extend for a further 12 months.

September to early October 2025 is anticipated to be the mobilisation period for service provider(s)

Delivery of support to allocated participants is estimated to commence on the 6th October 2025 until 30th June 2029 as part of the initial contract terms, with option to extend this contract for a further 12 months.

Lot value (estimated)

- £4,430,067 excluding VAT
- £5,316,080 including VAT

Same for all lots

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

Lot 3. Individual Placement and Support: Central West

Description

Connect to Work is a national scheme led by the DWP (Department for Work and Pensions) and is a supported employment programme targeted at specific groups of residents to enable sustained employment.

The programme is focused on reversing the growth in Economic Inactivity and is targeted towards residents with health conditions and disabilities, as well as a number of groups to face barriers to gaining sustained employment, such as care leavers, carers, refugees, ex-offenders, and veterans, aligning with the Lancashire Economic Inactivity insights report, published in 2023.

The Authority is seeking secure a new multi-lotted contract for the external provision of IPS (Individual Placement Support) and SEQF (Supported Employment Quality Framework) as part of the Authority's Connect to Work project.

Lot 3 is based on IPS for the Central & West geographical area of Lancashire. (Including delivery in the districts of, Chorley, Preston, South Ribble and West Lancashire.)

The initial term of the contract commences on 5th September 2025 to 30th June 2029, with an option to extend for a further 12 months.

September to early October 2025 is anticipated to be the mobilisation period for service provider(s)

Delivery of support to allocated participants is estimated to commence on the 6th October 2025 until 30th June 2029 as part of the initial contract terms, with option to extend this contract for a further 12 months.

Lot value (estimated)

- £6,377,138 excluding VAT
- £7,652,566 including VAT

Same for all lots

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

Lot 4. Supported Employment Quality Framework: Lancashire

Description

Connect to Work is a national scheme led by the DWP (Department for Work and Pensions) and is a supported employment programme targeted at specific groups of residents to enable sustained employment.

The programme is focused on reversing the growth in Economic Inactivity and is targeted towards residents with health conditions and disabilities, as well as a number of groups to face barriers to gaining sustained employment, such as care leavers, carers, refugees, ex-offenders, and veterans, aligning with the Lancashire Economic Inactivity insights report, published in 2023.

The Authority is seeking secure a new multi-lotted contract for the external provision of IPS (Individual Placement Support) and SEQF (Supported Employment Quality Framework) as part of the Authority's Connect to Work project.

Lot 4 is based on SEQF for the geographical area of Lancashire.

The initial term of the contract commences on 5th September 2025 to 30th June 2029, with an option to extend for a further 12 months.

September 2025 to March 2026 is anticipated to be the mobilisation period for service provider(s)

Delivery of support to allocated participants is estimated to commence on the 1st April 2026 until 30th June 2029 as part of the initial contract terms, with option to extend this contract for a further 12 months.

Lot value (estimated)

- £5,828,063 excluding VAT

- £6,993,676 including VAT

Same for all lots

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

Participation

Technical ability conditions of participation

Lot 1. Individual Placement and Support: East

Lot 2. Individual Placement and Support: North

Lot 3. Individual Placement and Support: Central West

Lot 4. Supported Employment Quality Framework: Lancashire

Please see the tender documentation for further information.

Particular suitability

Lot 1. Individual Placement and Support: East

Lot 2. Individual Placement and Support: North

Lot 3. Individual Placement and Support: Central West

Lot 4. Supported Employment Quality Framework: Lancashire

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

Tender submission deadline

19 June 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

The tender documents are available on Lancashire County Council's electronic tendering site: www.lancashire.gov.uk/fusion-supplier-portal/

Use of this system does not require high specification IT equipment or connections, nor high-level personal IT skills/capabilities. Access to the system/software and advice is free of charge. Registration is necessary in order to view the tender details and obtain tender documentation. Tenderers are advised to allow plenty of time for registration and to do this as early as possible during the tender period.

Please see www.lancashire.gov.uk/business/tenders-and-procurement/tenders/ for further information.

NEGOTIATION (Request For Quote) NUMBER (Tender reference number for online tendering system) is: LCC44470. For further information please contact: contractscorporate@lancashire.gov.uk

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

3 September 2025

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Quality and Technical	Quality and Technical Questionnaire	Quality	90%
Social Value	Social Value	Quality	10%

Other information

Applicable trade agreements

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Contracting authority

Lancashire County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PBBJ-2179-TNXM

PO Box 100, County Hall

Preston

PR1 0LD

United Kingdom

Contact name: Chris Ridings

Email: contractscorporate@lancashire.gov.uk

Region: UKD45 - Mid Lancashire

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government

Other organisations

These organisations are carrying out the procurement, or part of it, on behalf of the contracting authorities.

SOCIAL VALUE PORTAL LTD

Summary of their role in this procurement: Evaluation of Social Value

- Companies House: 09197997

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PQHH-4489-TLZM

Tintagel House

London

SE1 7TY

United Kingdom

Email: sales@socialvalueportal.com

Region: UKI45 - Lambeth

BLACKPOOL COUNCIL

Summary of their role in this procurement: Assistance in tender evaluations

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHHB-5249-RZVD

PO Box 11, Town Hall

Blackpool

FY1 1NB

United Kingdom

Email: FTSprocurementnotices@blackpool.gov.uk

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

Region: UKD42 - Blackpool

Blackburn With Darwen Borough Council

Summary of their role in this procurement: Assistance in tender evaluations

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PYGR-1856-CVXM

Town Hall, King William Street

Blackburn

BB1 7DY

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@blackburn.gov.uk

Region: UKD41 - Blackburn with Darwen

Contact organisation

Contact Lancashire County Council for any enquiries.