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Tender

Centre of Excellence - Sector Capability, Capacity and Skills

Department for Education

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-028479

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05287d

Published 29 May 2025, 2:28pm

Changes to notice

This notice has been edited. The [previous version](#) is still available.

Scope

Description

The Department for Education (the department) are looking for a provider to scope, test and begin delivering a support offer (Centre of Excellence) to help local authorities (LAs) improve their data and digital maturity with respect to children's social care (CSC) services.

The incoming government has prioritised 'Multi Agency Information Sharing' (MAIS) as a key focus in their manifesto. To help ready the sector for MAIS technical solutions and get the foundations of data and digital knowledge and confident leadership across all LAs in place, the department will provide a support offer to help LAs improve their data and digital maturity with respect to CSC services. This includes the sector's ability to secure, use and share data; and to deliver user-centred case management systems (CMS).

The department wants to understand what and how support could be offered for maximum impact, and to begin delivering the support offer. To deliver this work, it is recognised that the successful bidder will need to work closely with the department and those working in data and digital roles related to CSC in LAs.

The supplier will:

- work with the department and LAs to co-develop a vision and action plans for a data and digitally mature sector
- provide expertise on CSC data and digital, including hands-on support with specific LAs
- help LAs optimise how they customise and procure their digital CMS
- develop tools and resources that meet the needs of users
- plan research to provide a more detailed picture of CSC data quality, identifying where to focus improvements
- facilitate knowledge sharing, innovation, and collaboration between LAs, to share guidance, best practice and ideas – creating spaces where LAs can learn from each other both about what works and what does not, and how to utilise future technologies
- plan help with career and skills development to grow capability and capacity – training programmes and guidance that support continuous professional development, upskilling (including potentially around the use of AI), and those joining the profession; with shorter data/digital skills training/courses as well as longer ones (e.g. apprenticeships) to make building a data or digital career within LAs more achievable and attractive

A Prior Information Notice for this procurement was published in February 2025 under PCR15. The links to these notices can be found here:

<https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/003474-2025>

<https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/Notice/fd848d6e-7db7-4312-9121-fb26dce7be2d>

Total value (estimated)

- £833,333.33 excluding VAT
- £1,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 August 2025 to 28 June 2026
- Possible extension to 30 September 2026
- 1 year, 2 months

Description of possible extension:

This contract includes and optional 3 month extension. This is at the authority's discretion.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80000000 - Education and training services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Participation

Legal and financial capacity conditions of participation

All listed in the tender documents

Technical ability conditions of participation

All listed in the tender documents

Particular suitability

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

Submission

Enquiry deadline

24 June 2025, 12:00pm

Tender submission deadline

30 June 2025, 9:00am

Submission address and any special instructions

<https://education.app.jaggaer.com/web/login.html>

All tenders must be submitted via Jaggaer above. Interested bidders can create an account if they don't already have one.

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

14 July 2025

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Technical Criteria	Technical Criteria including Social Value (10%)	Quality	70%
Price Criteria	Price Criteria. Tender docs contain how this will be evaluated and scored.	Price	30%

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Contracting authority

Department for Education

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDZG-3487-DPVD

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street

London

SW1P3BT

United Kingdom

Contact name: Emilie Wilkinson

Email: Emilie.WILKINSON@EDUCATION.GOV.UK

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Organisation type: Public authority - central government