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Tender

Invitation to Tender For the provision of a farmers' market in Maidstone Town Centre

Maidstone Borough Council

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-033394

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-054f39

Published 18 June 2025, 3:17pm

Scope

Description

Maidstone Borough Council is inviting tenders for the concession of a farmers' market in Maidstone Town Centre. Locations for the farmers' market could be Jubilee Square, ME14 1TF or Coronation Square, ME16 8LW or another town centre location that a contractor sees as a new opportunity. Please include any new venues for the council to consider in your submission.

The contract term will be an initial 1 year, with two possible 1-year extensions subject to performance reviews, giving a potential three-year total. (1 + 1 + 1).

Maidstone holds weekly markets at Lockmeadow that include for sale household items, groceries, bric-a-brac and some fresh food items. The council wishes to expand the fresh element and introduce a farmers' market to Maidstone Town Centre for the provision of fresh produce, fresh food and locally-made food products. It will complement the existing farmers' markets in the borough and bring the same opportunities to the town centre.

The Council is keen to hear from companies and individuals who can bring together stall holders for a regular farmers' market in the town centre. The council sees this as being a monthly occurrence but is also open to other suggestions from bidders.

In submissions, the council wishes to see an organiser's experiences and successes with example stall holders that the organiser would expect to attract to the town centre market.

Key Dates & Timeline for Procurement

Tender release: 18 June 2025

Expression of Interest Deadline: 12:00pm 9 July 2025

Deadline for submission of completed tenders: 12:00pm 16 July 2025

Evaluation: w/c 21 July 2025

Decision: 28 July 2025

All expression of interest and subsequent submissions must be made via the Kent Business Portal: www.kentbusinessportal.org.uk

Total value (estimated)

- £1 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026
- Possible extension to 31 August 2028
- 3 years

Description of possible extension:

Two annual extensions available after the initial term.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 79950000 - Exhibition, fair and congress organisation services

Contract locations

- UKJ45 - Mid Kent

Participation

Particular suitability

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

Submission

Enquiry deadline

9 July 2025, 12:00pm

Tender submission deadline

16 July 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

All tender submissions must be through the Kent Business Portal:

www.kentbusinessportal.org.uk

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Award criteria

Licence fee - 25%

Quality - 75%

Procedure

Procedure type

Below threshold - open competition

Documents

Associated tender documents

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

Contracting authority

Maidstone Borough Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PGRT-5366-CGWY

Maidstone House, King Street

Maidstone

ME15 6JQ

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@tunbridgewells.gov.uk

Region: UKJ45 - Mid Kent

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government