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Tender

## **Flexible Procurement Agreement for the Adult Skills Framework**

North of Tyne Combined Authority

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-034138

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-041af2

Published 17 November 2023, 3:34pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

North of Tyne Combined Authority

The Lumen St James Boulevard

Newcastle

NE4 5BZ

#### **Contact**

Mrs Joanna Elliott

#### **Email**

[joanna.elliott@northtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:joanna.elliott@northtyneside.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1916434351

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKC - North East (England)

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://www.northoftyne-ca.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

<http://www.northoftyne-ca.gov.uk>

**I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://procontract.due-north.com/Opportunities>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://procontract.due-north.com>

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Regional or local authority

**I.5) Main activity**

Education

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Flexible Procurement Agreement for the Adult Skills Framework

Reference number

DN699812

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 80000000 - Education and training services

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

A devolution deal was agreed between ministers and local leaders across the North East in December 2022 to provide the area with new powers and funding to increase opportunities and living standards through inclusive growth and productivity improvements.

It is anticipated that the devolution deal will result in the creation of a new North East Mayoral Combined Authority (NEMCA) covering County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, and Sunderland.

NEMCA will have the power to make decisions on areas such as transport, skills, housing, finance, and economic development. Local leaders have worked together to negotiate an offer which matches their ambition to make a difference for residents, communities, and the economy.

The funding for adult skills provides the opportunity to join up the region's skills and training offer, reduce duplication and make sure we are reaching those communities most disadvantaged.

To achieve this, we are launching an Adult Skills Flexible Procurement Framework and inviting a wide range of organisations and providers of skills including further education colleges, independent training organisations, Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations (VCSE) organisations and other stakeholders, including employer providers, to tender for a place on the Framework.

It is anticipated that, from May 2024, NEMCA will be operational and the successor body to the North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA). In that event, the current intention is that any Framework Agreements entered into between NTCA and the successful providers as a result of this ITT will continue to remain in force for the duration of their contractual terms, acknowledging that NEMCA would be likely to replace NTCA as the contracting authority from May 2024.

It is also currently anticipated that NEMCA will operate any procedure (direct award or mini competition) for award of orders for services during the Term of the Flexible Procurement Agreement and therefore that than any contracts awarded as a result of such procedures will be entered into between the respective successful providers and NEMCA.

This Procurement is issued by North Tyneside Council on behalf of The North of Tyne Combined Authority (referred to in this document as “NTCA”; the “Authority”; and “we”). The current intention is that any Framework Agreements entered into between NTCA and the successful providers as result of this ITT will continue to remain in force for the duration of their contractual terms, acknowledging that NEMCA would be likely to replace NTCA as the contracting authority from May 2024.

<https://procontract.due-north.com/Advert?advertId=7e390873-5485-ee11-8125-005056b64545&p=1c9e782c-541e-e611-8114-000c29c9ba21>

### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £280,000,000

### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Tenders may be submitted for all lots

Maximum number of lots that may be awarded to one tenderer: 3

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

Devolved Adult Education

Lot No

## **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 80000000 - Education and training services

## **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKC - North East (England)

## **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The principal purpose of the devolved AEB is to engage adults aged 19+ and provide them with the skills needed for entering and sustaining work, an apprenticeship/traineeship, or other further learning.

It provides funding for programmes of learning up to Level 2 (GCSE level equivalent) and some Level 3 qualifications for individuals aged 19-23. It does not fund all Level 3 learning as this is delivered through Free Courses for Jobs or Advanced Learner Loans, or programmes at Level 4 and above which are also funded through Advanced Learner Loans or Higher Education (HE) funding.

The Minimum contract value for this lot is £75,000 and Maximum £750,000

## **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

## **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £16,000,000

## **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

End date

31 July 2025

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

The initial contract award is from 1st April 2024 to 31st July 2025, with the option of 3 x 12

month extensions available

### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

Free Courses for Jobs Level 3 Adult Offer

Lot No

2

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 80000000 - Education and training services

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKC - North East (England)

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The Free Courses for Jobs Level 3 Adult Offer is designed to help adults to gain the skills that are sought by employers. This will help them improve their job prospects and support economic recovery.

Funding in Lot 2 is available for Free Courses for Jobs provision to support adults to gain free fully funded Level 3 qualifications that are part of the national approved adult offer. This offer includes around 400 Level 3 qualifications in 20 different sector subject areas (SSA). Combined Authority officers, in consultation with providers will monitor qualifications on the approved list to ensure that they meet the needs of the region's

growth/recovery sectors for delivery

The minimum contract value for this lot is £75,000 and maximum is £750,000

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

#### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £2,000,000

#### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

End date

31 July 2025

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

The initial contract award is from 1st April 2024 to 31st July 2025, with the option of 3 x 12 month extensions available

#### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

#### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.1) Title**

## Skills Bootcamps

Lot No

3

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 80000000 - Education and training services

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKC - North East (England)

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Skills Bootcamps are intensive, Level 3-5 or equivalent flexible training courses up to 16 weeks, with a guaranteed job interview (in the case of a new job), which equip adults with technical skills that enable them to access in-demand jobs, apprenticeships, new opportunities, and an increased level of income over time (including for the self-employed).

Provision in this Lot should be open to residents of the relevant areas aged 19 or over who are full-time or part-time employed, self-employed, unemployed (i.e. not in work), as well as adults returning to work after a break.

Minimum contract value for this lot is £75,000 and maximum is £750,000

### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £16,700,000

### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

End date

31 July 2025

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

The initial contract award is from 1st April 2024 to 31st July 2025, with the option of 3 x 12 month extensions available

#### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

#### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Open procedure

#### **IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system**

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with a single operator

In the case of framework agreements, provide justification for any duration exceeding 4 years:

This framework does not exceed the 4 years duration

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

## **IV.2) Administrative information**

### **IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

18 December 2023

Local time

12:00pm

### **IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English

### **IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender**

Duration in months: 3 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

### **IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders**

Date

18 December 2023

Local time

12:00pm

## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.2) Information about electronic workflows**

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

Royal Courts of Justice

Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom