

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/037345-2025>

Tender

## Election and Electoral Registration Print

THE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH EAST COUNCILS LIMITED

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-037345

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0522a0 ([view related notices](#))

Published 4 July 2025, 11:05am

## Scope

## Reference

NEPO504

## Description

The Association of North East Councils Trading as the North East Procurement Organisation (NEPO) is seeking to establish a multi-supplier Framework Agreement for the provision of election and electoral registration printing and related services for use by contracting authorities throughout the North East region.

NEPO intends to award further successive frameworks at least every 2 and 5 years until expiry of the Framework Agreement term. As such, suppliers which have not been appointed to this Framework will have the opportunity to be appointed to the subsequent framework.

Suppliers wishing to access and complete the tender documents must first register on Open the eTendering system using the following link <https://www.open-uk.org>.

For guidance on how to create an account or submit your questionnaire response through Open, please visit <https://www.open-hub.org/training> (<https://www.open-hub.org/training>) to access the available Training Guides. If you need technical assistance from the Open Support team, this can be requested via email at [open.support@nepo.org](mailto:open.support@nepo.org).

PLEASE NOTE: Open is accessible 24/7 however, technical support is available Monday to Thursday 08:30 - 17:00 and Friday 08:30 - 16:30.

## **Commercial tool**

Establishes an open framework

A series of frameworks with substantially the same terms. Awarded suppliers are carried over and new suppliers can bid.

## **Total value (estimated)**

- £75,000,000 excluding VAT
- £90,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

## **Contract dates (estimated)**

- 1 December 2025 to 30 November 2033
- 8 years

## **Main procurement category**

Goods

## **CPV classifications**

- 22000000 - Printed matter and related products
- 79800000 - Printing and related services

## **Contract locations**

- UKC - North East (England)

---

## **Framework**

### **Open framework scheme end date (estimated)**

30 November 2033

### **Maximum number of suppliers**

Unlimited

### **Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers**

1%

### **Further information about fees**

NEPO operates a contract rebate arrangement whereby Suppliers are asked to repay NEPO a set percentage of each invoice in respect of orders placed by NEPO or any Contracting Authority accessing the Framework. The maximum rebate taken by NEPO against the value of awarded contracts will not exceed 1.0%.

## **Framework operation description**

The successful tenderer will enter into a Framework Agreement (NEPO504 Election and Electoral Registration Print) with NEPO. This Framework will be made accessible to the North East Member Authorities via Call-Off Contracts. NEPO will establish overarching terms and conditions that define the core principles of the Framework.

When a Contracting Authority with an active Call-Off identifies a need that can be met under the Framework, they will enter into a project-specific agreement with the awarded supplier. These project-specific terms and conditions will be developed in agreement between the Contracting Authority and the supplier.

Pricing will be determined through the tender process and evaluated against predefined award criteria and associated weightings. All tenders will be assessed accordingly.

Pricing submitted as part of this framework will apply to requirements within the North East region only.

Pricing will be fixed for the first 12 months of the Framework. Thereafter Suppliers will have the opportunity to provide NEPO with a pricing review notification to conduct an annual pricing review using the NEPO Pricing Review Notification Process.

Contracting Authorities may establish Call-Off Contracts through either Direct Award or Further Competition. A Direct Award may be used where the Contracting Authority objectively determines that a supplier can fully meet their specific requirements, such as defined scope, delivery timelines, risk management and project continuity and where, if multiple suppliers are capable, the chosen supplier provides the best overall value for money and quality. This is subject to the Contracting Authority's internal procurement and legal guidelines permitting a Direct Award.

In cases of Direct Award, pricing will be based on the tendered rates within the Framework.

All suppliers awarded to the Framework may be invited to participate in Further Competitions. The evaluation criteria for any Further Competition will be specified by the Contracting Authority and included in the competition documentation. Suppliers will be

required to submit pricing based on the specific project requirements.

The Framework will be established as an Open Framework under section 49 of the Procurement Act. The second Framework will be awarded before the third anniversary of the commencement date, it is estimated this will be Q2/2028. As such, suppliers which have not been appointed to the first Framework will have the opportunity to be appointed to a subsequent Framework. Following the second Framework, NEPO intends to award further successive Frameworks at least every 3 years until expiry of the Open Framework term, which will not exceed eight years in total (in accordance with section 49(2)(c) of the Act).

NEPO reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to reopen the Open Framework throughout its term to award a successive Framework in the scheme. NEPO may exercise this right where there is a need to increase capacity in the market or to respond to emerging market conditions or to address additional works requirements or to replace a supplier due to failure/poor performance/material breaches. In each case, a Tender Notice shall be published informing suppliers of the procurement process for the next Framework in the scheme.

Each Framework under the Open Framework will expire on the award of the next Framework in the scheme. However, if a Framework expires while a process for the award of a Call-off Contract is ongoing, a Contracting Authority may continue to process and award the Call-off Contract as though the Framework had not expired.

NEPO reserves the right not to procure or award any successive Framework in the Open Framework scheme.

## **Award method when using the framework**

With competition

## **Contracting authorities that may use the framework**

The Solution will be available for use by NEPO Member Authorities and any associated organisation only.

NEPO Member Authorities Include:

Darlington Borough Council

Durham County Council

Gateshead Council

Hartlepool Borough Council

Middlesbrough Council

Newcastle City Council

North Tyneside Council

Northumberland County Council

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council

South Tyneside Council

Stockton On Tees Borough Council

Sunderland City Council

## **Contracting authority location restrictions**

- UKC - North East (England)

---

## **Submission**

### **Tender submission deadline**

5 August 2025, 12:00pm

## Submission address and any special instructions

All submissions must be via Open <https://www.open-uk.org/>.

## Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

## Languages that may be used for submission

English

## Award decision date (estimated)

20 October 2025

## Recurring procurement

Publication date of next tender notice (estimated): 1 December 2027

---

## Award criteria

Name	Type	Weighting
Quality	Quality	60%
Price	Price	30%
Social Value (Quality)	Quality	10%

---

## Other information

### Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

---

## Procedure

### Procedure type

Open procedure

---

## Contracting authority

### THE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH EAST COUNCILS LIMITED

- Companies House: 05014821
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PYVX-2132-JNMM

Northern Design Centre

Gateshead

NE8 3DF

United Kingdom



Email: [cdpnepoteam@nepo.org](mailto:cdpnepoteam@nepo.org)

Website: <http://www.nepo.org>

Region: UKC22 - Tyneside

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government