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Tender

CP2641-25 Adult Skills Fund & Free Courses for Jobs

Devon County Council

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-037693

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-055047 ([view related notices](#))

Published 7 July 2025, 11:30am

Scope

Reference

CP2641-25

Description

Devon County Council (DCC) seeks to implement a framework to provide Adult Skills Fund provision from high quality providers in Devon and Torbay, that is responsive to local needs, supports individuals furthest from the labour market, and contributes to the county's strategic objectives for economic development, social inclusion, and community wellbeing for the coming academic year (2025/26). Provision must be delivery of Department for Education (DfE) approved qualifications. Contract awards will be based on the quality and reach of any proposed course provision. Contracts will be paid in arrears according to evidenced learner output milestones as this is the basis for receiving funding from the DfE. Contractors will be required to submit learner data compliant with the existing learner data framework for Learn Devon (as part of DCC) as DCC will submit ILR data to the DfE on behalf of contracted providers. Providers will be required to deliver DfE approved qualifications as follows: The first full Qualification at level 2 legal entitlement (excluding Maths, English, and ESOL) for individuals aged 19 to 23; and/or the first full Qualification at level 3 for individuals aged 19 to 23; Essential digital skills qualifications,

up to and including level 1, for individuals aged 19 or over, who have digital skills assessed at below level 1; Level 3 Free Courses for Jobs Offer for learners aged 23 or younger (from these approved DfE qualifications); Level 3 Free Courses for Jobs Offer for learners aged 24 and over (from these approved DfE qualifications). Training and skills courses resulting in DfE approved qualifications must be focused on the sectors below: Health and Social Care Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering (including Green Technologies) Education Hospitality Transport and Storage Information and Communication Finance and Insurance Professional, Scientific, and Technical Digital (including Essential Digital Skills)

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Total value (estimated)

- £1,115,391 excluding VAT
- £1,338,469 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80400000 - Adult and other education services

Lot constraints

Description of how multiple lots may be awarded:

Bidders are able to bid for all Lots they are eligible for. Each Lot will be awarded based on the award criteria set out in the ITT.

Due to DfE requirements, providers are unable to bid exclusively for Lot 5 (Free Courses for Jobs) if they don't have an existing ASF provision. If they wish to bid for Lot 5, they must also bid in at least 1 of the other lots (Lot 1, Lot 2, Lot 3, and Lot 4) or evidence that they have existing ASF provision for 2025-2026.

Not the same for all lots

Contract locations and contract dates are shown in Lot sections, because they are not the same for all lots.

Lot 1. ASF in Exeter, East Devon, and Mid-Devon

Description

Provision of ASF Courses in Exeter, East Devon, and Mid-Devon

Lot value (estimated)

- £249,368 excluding VAT
- £299,242 including VAT

Framework lot values may be shared with other lots

Contract dates (estimated)

- 21 August 2025 to 31 July 2026
- 11 months, 11 days

Contract locations

- UKK43 - Devon CC

Same for all lots

CPV classifications are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot 2. ASF in Torridge and North Devon

Description

Provision of ASF Courses in Torridge and North Devon

Lot value (estimated)

- £249,368 excluding VAT
- £299,241 including VAT

Framework lot values may be shared with other lots

Contract dates (estimated)

- 21 August 2025 to 31 August 2026

- 1 year, 11 days

Contract locations

- UKK43 - Devon CC

Same for all lots

CPV classifications are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot 3. ASF Teignbridge, South Hams, and West Devon

Description

Provision of ASF Courses in Teignbridge, South Hams, and West Devon

Lot value (estimated)

- £249,368 excluding VAT
- £299,241 including VAT

Framework lot values may be shared with other lots

Contract dates (estimated)

- 21 August 2025 to 31 July 2026
- 11 months, 11 days

Contract locations

- UKK43 - Devon CC

Same for all lots

CPV classifications are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot 4. ASF in Torbay

Description

Provision of ASF Courses in Torbay

Lot value (estimated)

- £134,541 excluding VAT
- £161,449 including VAT

Framework lot values may be shared with other lots

Contract dates (estimated)

- 21 August 2025 to 31 July 2026
- 11 months, 11 days

Contract locations

- UKK42 - Torbay

Same for all lots

CPV classifications are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot 5. Free Courses for Jobs with 2 Sublots

Description

Free Courses for Jobs with 2 Sublots a) Devon b) Torbay

Lot value (estimated)

- £232,746 excluding VAT
- £279,295 including VAT

Framework lot values may be shared with other lots

Contract dates (estimated)

- 21 August 2025 to 31 July 2026
- 11 months, 11 days

Contract locations

- UKK43 - Devon CC

Same for all lots

CPV classifications are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Framework

Maximum number of suppliers

20

Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers

0%

Framework operation description

A) Cascade Direct Award

Through a 'cascade' Direct Award approach, the Framework Provider ranked first for the specified Lot will be invited to fulfil the project requirement. If the Framework Provider ranked first either declines the contract or does not have the capacity or capability to deliver the contract, the bidder ranked second would then be offered the contract (and so on).

For Phase 1 of this Framework Agreement, the cascade approach will be used for each Lot as defined within the ITT.

B) Mini Competition

As and when a project requirement arises, all of the specific Framework Providers for the chosen Lot will be invited to participate in a Mini-Competition Invitation to Tender. This will contain the Supplemental Specification for the project and the particular Mini-Competition Award Criteria.

Award method when using the framework

Either with or without competition

Contracting authorities that may use the framework

Establishing party only

Participation

Legal and financial capacity conditions of participation

Lot 1. ASF in Exeter, East Devon, and Mid-Devon

refer to ITT

Technical ability conditions of participation

Lot 1. ASF in Exeter, East Devon, and Mid-Devon

refer to ITT

Particular suitability

Lot 1. ASF in Exeter, East Devon, and Mid-Devon

Lot 2. ASF in Torridge and North Devon

Lot 3. ASF Teignbridge, South Hams, and West Devon

Lot 4. ASF in Torbay

Lot 5. Free Courses for Jobs with 2 Sublots

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

21 July 2025, 12:00pm

Tender submission deadline

28 July 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

<https://www.supplyingthesouthwest.org.uk/>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

20 August 2025

Award criteria

Lot 1. ASF in Exeter, East Devon, and Mid-Devon

Lot 2. ASF in Torridge and North Devon

Lot 3. ASF Teignbridge, South Hams, and West Devon

Lot 4. ASF in Torbay

Name	Type
Quality	Quality

Weighting description

Award will be Quality only

Project management 24%

Quality Assurance 15%

Learner Engagement 18%

Curriculum 35%

Social Value 8%

Lot 5. Free Courses for Jobs with 2 Sublots

Name	Type
quality	Quality

Weighting description

Award will be Quality only

Project management 24%

Quality Assurance 15%

Learner Engagement 18%

Curriculum 35%

Social Value 8%

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Reduced tendering period

Yes

Light touch contract - no minimum

Contracting authority

Devon County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PJRC-4623-RJBH

County Hall

Exeter

EX2 4QD

United Kingdom

Contact name: Mr Symon Doliczny

Telephone: +441392381027

Email: Symon.Doliczny@devon.gov.uk

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

Region: UKK43 - Devon CC

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government