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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.

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## **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.

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## **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.

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## **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.

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## **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.

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## 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.

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## **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

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## **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)

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## **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

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## 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**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Type</b>
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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Type</b>
quality	Quality

## Weighting description

Award will be Quality only

Project management 24%

Quality Assurance 15%

Learner Engagement 18%

Curriculum 35%

Social Value 8%

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## **Other information**

### **Conflicts assessment prepared/revised**

Yes

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## **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

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Email: [Symon.Doliczny@devon.gov.uk](mailto:Symon.Doliczny@devon.gov.uk)

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

Region: UKK43 - Devon CC

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government