

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/040855-2024>

Tender

Provision of Apprenticeship Training and Assessment Framework

Cumberland Council

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-040855

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04c955

Published 18 December 2024, 5:07pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Cumberland Council

Cumbria House, 107 - 117 Botchergate

Carlisle

CA1 1RD

Contact

Ms Emma Jane Gordon

Email

emmajane.gordon@cumberland.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 7554407945

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKD1 - Cumbria

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.cumberland.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/Advert/Index?advertId=34610874-35bd-ef11-8133-005056b64545>

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/Advert/Index?advertId=34610874-35bd-ef11-8133-005056b64545>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Regional or local authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Provision of Apprenticeship Training and Assessment Framework

Reference number

DN756307

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80530000 - Vocational training services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Cumberland Council is committed to investing in apprenticeships as a vital pathway for empowering residents and fostering economic growth. By offering accessible opportunities, we aim to enhance skills, promote career development, and create a skilled workforce that supports the health, wellbeing, and resilience of our communities. Our apprenticeship initiatives play a key role in addressing local skills gaps and ensuring all residents can contribute to and benefit from a thriving local economy.

Our workforce planning strategy focuses on developing a skilled, inclusive workforce through apprenticeships and career pathways. By prioritising inclusive recruitment and collaborating with local educational institutions, we aim to fill skill gaps and meet future service delivery needs. Through mentorship, career development opportunities, and a focus on retention, we are building a sustainable pipeline of talent to support the Council's long-term goals. Our values of ambition, collaboration, compassion, innovation, and empowerment guide this work, ensuring that apprenticeships are integral to the Council's transformation and success.

Please see the Tender Documents for further information available via The Chest.

<https://www.the-chest.org.uk/> .

For support using the Chest, please contact Proactis, using the Supplier Support area.

For clarifications, please ensure all correspondence is via The Chest using the messages

area

The contract term is a maximum of 6 years, this is based on an initial 4 year term plus 2 optional extension of up to 12 months.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £15,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKD1 - Cumbria

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Cumberland Council is committed to investing in apprenticeships as a vital pathway for empowering residents and fostering economic growth. By offering accessible opportunities, we aim to enhance skills, promote career development, and create a skilled workforce that supports the health, wellbeing, and resilience of our communities. Our apprenticeship initiatives play a key role in addressing local skills gaps and ensuring all residents can contribute to and benefit from a thriving local economy.

Our workforce planning strategy focuses on developing a skilled, inclusive workforce through apprenticeships and career pathways. By prioritising inclusive recruitment and collaborating with local educational institutions, we aim to fill skill gaps and meet future service delivery needs. Through mentorship, career development opportunities, and a focus on retention, we are building a sustainable pipeline of talent to support the Council's long-term goals. Our values of ambition, collaboration, compassion, innovation, and empowerment guide this work, ensuring that apprenticeships are integral to the Council's transformation and success.

The contract term is a maximum of 6 years, this is based on an initial 4 year term plus 2 optional extension of up to 12 months.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 70

Quality criterion - Name: Social Value / Weighting: 20

Price - Weighting: 10

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

Duration in months

72

This contract is subject to renewal

No

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

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 several operators

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

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

22 January 2025

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: 6 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

22 January 2025

Local time

12:00pm

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.3) Additional information

Cumberland Council is committed to investing in apprenticeships as a vital pathway for empowering residents and fostering economic growth. By offering accessible opportunities, we aim to enhance skills, promote career development, and create a skilled workforce that supports the health, wellbeing, and resilience of our communities. Our apprenticeship initiatives play a key role in addressing local skills gaps and ensuring all residents can contribute to and benefit from a thriving local economy.

Our workforce planning strategy focuses on developing a skilled, inclusive workforce through apprenticeships and career pathways. By prioritising inclusive recruitment and collaborating with local educational institutions, we aim to fill skill gaps and meet future service delivery needs. Through mentorship, career development opportunities, and a focus on retention, we are building a sustainable pipeline of talent to support the Council's long-term goals. Our values of ambition, collaboration, compassion, innovation, and empowerment guide this work, ensuring that apprenticeships are integral to the Council's transformation and success.

Suppliers wishing to express an interest and obtain access to the tender documents should

go to www.the-chest.org.uk and click on current opportunities from the navigation area on the left of the screen. On the next screen enter the contract Reference (DN756307) in the box labelled 'contains' then click search. Click on the Blue link for the contract title to view the opportunity. To express an interest you will need to login. If you are not already registered on the www.the-chest.org.uk you will need to return to the home page and click on Register. Register FREE link in the navigation area on the left of the screen. Registration is

free of charge and your username and password will be emailed to you.

Cumberland Council is fully supportive of all aspects of diversity including ethnicity, race, religion, age, disability and sexual orientation. In this respect Cumberland Council welcomes expressions of interest from ethnic minority, disabled and other diverse business

communities and the voluntary sector. Economic operators are therefore required to fully

comply with all statutory obligations/applicable legislation and there will be a requirement to participate in the Authority's supplier audits on all aspects of diversity.

The Contracting Authority expressly reserves the right:

(i) not to award any contract as a result of the procurement process commenced by publication of this notice; and

(ii) to make whatever changes it may see fit to the content and structure of the tendering

Page 8 to 8

competition; and in no circumstances will the Contracting Authority be liable for any costs incurred by the candidates. Any expenditure, work or effort undertaken prior to contract award is accordingly a matter solely for the commercial judgement of potential suppliers.

The contracting authority reserve the right to use any electronic portal during the life of the agreement.

The value provided in Section II.1.5 is only an estimate.

The contract term is a maximum of 6 years, this is based on an initial 4 year term plus 2 optional extension of up to 12 months.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court of England

London

Country

United Kingdom