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Planning

Overnight Short Break Services for Children with Disabilities

Northumberland County Council

UK3: Planned procurement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-040917

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05612c ([view related notices](#))

Published 17 July 2025, 12:46pm

Scope

Description

The aim of the service will be to offer a specialist short break service to children and young people aged from 6 - 18 years old who have moderate to severe learning disabilities and additional complex needs including challenging behaviour, Epilepsy, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, physical disabilities, communication difficulties and complex health needs such as gastrostomies.

Whilst individual need will differ the objective of the service will be to:

Enable children and young people to access social and leisure opportunities.

Support children and young people to develop their life skills and independence as well as developing personal safety skills and managing self-care.

Enable family carers to take a break from their caring role.

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2028
- 3 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 85300000 - Social work and related services

Contract locations

- UKC21 - Northumberland

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

1 August 2025

Tender submission deadline

15 August 2025, 11:59pm

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

31 August 2025

Other information

Applicable trade agreements

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Reduced tendering period

Yes

Light touch contract - no minimum

Documents

Associated tender documents

[Soft Market Testing Short Breaks.docx](#)

As there is a lack of sufficiency within Northumberland, we would like to seek views from the market to help us to overcome some of the challenges that we are facing. These include:

Levels of assessed need for services (demand) is outstripping supply.

A limited number of providers operating within Northumberland and the wider area who can offer a service to children.

Providers experiencing recruitment and retention difficulties.

The ability to support complexity of presenting need safely and appropriately

Meeting the needs of children across a wider geographical footprint.

The information provided will help us to identify whether a procurement exercise would attract sufficient interest in the provision of Overnight Short Break Services for Disabled Children and if so, what this model would look like.

We would welcome your views in response to the questions shown no later than Wednesday 30th July.

Thank you for taking the time to respond to this questionnaire

Contracting authority

Northumberland County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PJJX-1133-JRGV

County Hall

Morpeth

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United Kingdom

Email: CCPS@northumberland.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.northumberland.gov.uk>

Region: UKC21 - Northumberland

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government