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Planning

Shaping the Future of FE Workforce Development and T Level Support - Preliminary Market Engagement

Department for Education

UK2: Preliminary market engagement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-043707

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0567aa ([view related notices](#))

Published 29 July 2025, 9:57am

Scope

Description

The Department for Education (DfE) is hosting a virtual early market engagement event with potential suppliers to explore the overall training and professional development needs of the FE sector, including future delivery options for supporting T Level providers and employers.

We are exploring options for:

- Professional Development to support the Further Education workforce, including specific support for the T Level workforce and the wider technical education landscape
- Provider and employer support for the implementation and growth of T Levels and other reformed technical qualifications, including:
 - * operational delivery support for T Level provider staff and senior leaders to implement T Levels
 - * direct support for providers in securing and overseeing the delivery of industry

placements

* direct support for employers to host industry placements for the first time and expand their capacity to deliver high quality opportunities at scale.

In this context, providers are any school, college or other institution who are already delivering T Levels or looking to deliver in the future.

This engagement exercise will focus on the design and development of a new model for delivering T Level services from September 2026 onwards, in the context of the wider FE professional development landscape. It will provide an opportunity for the DfE to share its early thinking on how we might best support providers and employers through future service contracts and seek feedback from the supplier market to help shape our approach.

Suppliers with a broad range of perspectives and expertise are welcome to attend the event; we are particularly keen to hear from suppliers with the capability and capacity to deliver these services across England.

We look forward to you attending the event and hearing your views.

Total value (estimated)

- £15,000,000 excluding VAT
- £18,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 June 2026 to 31 August 2028
- Possible extension to 31 August 2029
- 3 years, 3 months

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80000000 - Education and training services

Contract locations

- UKC - North East (England)
- UKD - North West (England)
- UKF - East Midlands (England)
- UKG - West Midlands (England)
- UKH - East of England
- UKJ - South East (England)
- UKK - South West (England)

Engagement

Engagement deadline

12 August 2025

Engagement process description

Market Engagement Event Invitation

Date: Tuesday 12th August 2025

Time: 10:00 – 11:30am

Location: Microsoft Teams Online Webinar

How to Register

To register your interest and secure a place at the event, please use this link

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/d015493e-e23c-4a39-a85d-e8930c635dd3@fad277c9-c60a-4da1-b5f3-b3b8b34a82f9>

Next Steps

Following the event, participants will be invited to complete a survey to provide structured feedback on the proposed delivery and commercial models.

Important: Please note that this is not a call for competition and does not commit the Department to procuring, or procuring services in any specific way. Any future opportunities will be subject to budgetary decisions and the availability of funding.

Participation

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

13 January 2026

Contracting authority

Department for Education

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDZG-3487-DPVD

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street

London

SW1P3BT

United Kingdom

Email: commercialdelivery.skills@education.gov.uk

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Organisation type: Public authority - central government