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Contract

## **Prison Education Service Core Education Lot 1**

Ministry of Justice

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-044018

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0324fd

Published 29 July 2025, 5:12pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Ministry of Justice

102 Petty France

London

SW1H 9AJ

#### **Email**

[Commercial-prisoneditionservice@justice.gov.uk](mailto:Commercial-prisoneditionservice@justice.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 02033343555

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

**I.5) Main activity**

General public services

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Prison Education Service Core Education Lot 1

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 75231200 - Services related to the detention or rehabilitation of criminals

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

This notice is for the award of Lot 1: Avon and South Dorset Prison Group & Devon and North Dorset Prison Group

The Prisoner Education Services (PES) is a UK government initiative with three overarching strategic priorities; improving prisoner numeracy and literacy skills, incentivizing prisoners to improve their qualifications and skills to increase their prospects of finding work on release, and ensuring that Governors and their teams have the knowledge, tools, support and accountabilities that they need to make this work. PES seeks to transform learning in jails as part of a renewed push to skill up offenders and protect the public.

PES Core Education will include teaching and delivery of a two-layered curriculum for independence and for opportunity which meets the needs of prisoners, as well as high quality, timely screening and assessment delivery and tailored and impactful additional learning needs support.

The Ministry of Justice launched the PES Panel to reform how education is delivered across the adult prison estate in England. The first call-offs under this framework focused on Core Education Services, including teaching and delivery of a two-layered curriculum for independence (essential subjects such as English, Maths, digital skills) and curriculum for opportunity, which meets the needs of prisoners.

The Core Education contracts also include high quality, timely screening and assessment delivery; tailored and impactful additional learning needs support; and (where applicable) prison library services. The contracts are split into 11 regional lots and aim to provide a consistent, high-quality education offer that supports rehabilitation, reduces reoffending,

and improves employability and resettlement outcomes for prisoners.

The procurement was conducted under the Open Procedure in accordance with the Light Touch Regime of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

#### **II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)**

Value excluding VAT: £55,000,000

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.1) Title**

Lot No

1

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 75231200 - Services related to the detention or rehabilitation of criminals

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The Ministry of Justice launched the PES Panel to reform how education is delivered across the adult prison estate in England. The first call-offs under this framework focused on Core Education Services, including teaching and delivery of a two-layered curriculum for independence (essential subjects such as English, maths, digital skills) and for opportunity which meets the needs of prisoners. The Core Education contracts also include high quality, timely screening and assessment delivery, tailored and impactful additional learning needs support, and (where applicable) prison library services. The contracts are split into 11 regional lots and aim to provide a consistent, high-quality education offer that supports rehabilitation, reduces reoffending, and improves employability and resettlement outcomes for prisoners.

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Quality criterion - Name: Engagement / Weighting: 5%

Quality criterion - Name: Assessing Prisoner Needs / Weighting: 5%

Quality criterion - Name: Curriculum for Independence / Weighting: 10%

Quality criterion - Name: Curriculum for Opportunity / Weighting: 10%

Quality criterion - Name: Library Service / Weighting: 5%

Quality criterion - Name: Workforce - Recruitment, Retention & Quality / Weighting: 10%

Quality criterion - Name: Workforce - Headcount & Structures / Weighting: 10%

Quality criterion - Name: Supporting Additional Learning Needs / Weighting: 5%

Quality criterion - Name: Digital eLearning Content / Weighting: 5%

Quality criterion - Name: Collaborative Working Local/Regional / Weighting: 5%

Cost criterion - Name: Tackling Economic Inequality / Weighting: 5%

Cost criterion - Name: Wellbeing / Weighting: 5%

#### **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

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Competitive procedure with negotiation

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

### **IV.2) Administrative information**

#### **IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure**

Notice number: [2023/S 000-027125](#)

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## **Section V. Award of contract**

### **Lot No**

1

### **Title**

Prison Education Service Core Education Lot 1

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

13 November 2023

#### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

Number of tenders received: 1

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

#### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

Milton Keynes College

Woughton Campus West

Leadenhall, Milton Keynes

MK6 5LP

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

No

**V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)**

Total value of the contract/lot: £55,000,000

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

Linked to the following Contracts Finder notice with redacted contract attached:

<https://ministryofjusticecommercial.bravosolution.co.uk/go/88867325019856EDE449>

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

High Court

Royal Courts of Justice, Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom