

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/044289-2025>

Tender

Connect to Work (Greater Essex)

Essex County Council

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-044289

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-051695 ([view related notices](#))

Published 30 July 2025, 1:54pm

Changes to notice

This notice has been edited. The [previous version](#) is still available.

Updated wording under the scope of the opportunity.

Scope

Reference

PL0106

Description

Are you passionate about improving people's lives? Essex County Council is proud to announce an opportunity to help up to 3,260 individuals in to sustained employment. Essex County Council, as the accountable body, is looking for a provider to assist in delivering the Connect to Work programme across Greater Essex.

The Government's "Get Britain Working" White Paper sets out the Government's intention to devolve funding for supported employment, including the Connect to Work Programme. Connect to Work aims to help connect local work, health and skills support and help eligible participants to secure sustainable work through a voluntary supported employment model, observing to Individual Placement & Support (IPS) and Supported Employment Quality Framework (SEQF) frameworks. Through this, Connect to Work will expand the use of the proven five stage Supported Employment model of 'place, train and maintain'.

Essex County Council is looking for a Provider that will develop and lead a supply chain of specialist organisations with a track record of successfully working and building trusted relationships with our prioritised cohorts. If you are a specialist organisation interested in sharing your contact details with other organisations to assist in the building of supply chains then you can email Daniel.Gaimster@essex.gov.uk with a short description of your offer is to the respective organisations and also appropriate contact details information to be added. For those interested in viewing the contact details of organisations who have shared them, this documents is available within the tender documents found on ProContract.

The successful bidder must be able to demonstrate a track record in delivering supported employment programmes, specifically through the Individual Placement and Support (IPS) and Supported Employment Quality Framework (SEQF) models. Delivery must align with national best practice and local commissioning priorities, ensuring high fidelity to both models.

The maximum value of this contract is £10,698,000 (excluding VAT). The contract value including VAT figure has been calculated assuming a 20% VAT rate but this may depend on the successful bidder and their VAT status and is solely their responsibility.

Connect to Work: Grant Guidance for England - GOV.UK
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/connect-to-work/connect-to-work-grant-guidance-for-england>

Total value (estimated)

- £10,698,000 excluding VAT
- £12,837,600 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 5 January 2026 to 31 March 2028
- Possible extension to 31 March 2030
- 4 years, 2 months, 27 days

Description of possible extension:

2 x 12 month extensions.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 79611000 - Job search services
- 79634000 - Career guidance services
- 80000000 - Education and training services

Contract locations

- UKH3 - Essex

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

29 August 2025, 11:59pm

Tender submission deadline

8 September 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

<https://procontract.due-north.com/Login>

The tender name on the ProContract system is Connect to Work.

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

5 November 2025

Award criteria

Name	Type	Weighting
Technical Quality	Quality	60%
Commercial	Cost	30%
Social Value	Quality	10%

Other information**Applicable trade agreements**

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure**Procedure type**

Open procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Contracting authority

Essex County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PWVM-4844-NRQH

County Hall, Market Road

Chelmsford

CM1 1QH

United Kingdom

Email: Daniel.Gaimster@essex.gov.uk

Region: UKH36 - Heart of Essex

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government