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Award

Connect to Work

Lancashire County Council

UK6: Contract award notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-054369

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05167a ([view related notices](#))

Published 5 September 2025, 3:25pm

Scope

Reference

CR/CORP/LCC/25/202

Description

Connect to Work is a national scheme led by the DWP (Department for Work and Pensions) and is a supported employment programme targeted at specific groups of residents to enable sustained employment. The programme is focused on reversing the growth in Economic Inactivity and is targeted towards residents with health conditions and disabilities, as well as a number of groups to face barriers to gaining sustained employment, such as care leavers, carers, refugees, ex-offenders, and veterans, aligning with the Lancashire Economic Inactivity insights report, published in 2023.

Lancashire County Council will be the Accountable Body managing this project across the Lancashire area for the next 5 years. (Until 31st March 2030, includes extension periods).

Lot 1. Individual Placement and Support: East

Description

Connect to Work is a national scheme led by the DWP (Department for Work and Pensions) and is a supported employment programme targeted at specific groups of residents to enable sustained employment. The programme is focused on reversing the growth in Economic Inactivity and is targeted towards residents with health conditions and disabilities, as well as a number of groups to face barriers to gaining sustained employment, such as care leavers, carers, refugees, ex-offenders, and veterans, aligning with the Lancashire Economic Inactivity insights report, published in 2023. The Authority is seeking secure a new multi-lotted contract for the external provision of IPS (Individual Placement Support) and SEQF (Supported Employment Quality Framework) as part of the Authority's Connect to Work project. Lot 1 is based on IPS for the East geographical area of Lancashire. (Including delivery in the districts of Blackburn with Darwen, Burnley, Hyndburn, Pendle, Ribble Valley and Rossendale.) The initial term of the contract commences on 5th September 2025 to 31st March 2029, with an option to extend for a further 12 months. September to early October 2025 is anticipated to be the mobilisation period for service provider(s). Delivery of support to allocated participants is estimated to commence in on the 6th October 2025 until 31st March 2029 as part of the initial contract terms, with option to extend this contract for a further 12 months.

Lot 2. Individual Placement and Support: North

Description

Connect to Work is a national scheme led by the DWP (Department for Work and Pensions) and is a supported employment programme targeted at specific groups of residents to enable sustained employment. The programme is focused on reversing the growth in Economic Inactivity and is targeted towards residents with health conditions and disabilities, as well as a number of groups to face barriers to gaining sustained employment, such as care leavers, carers, refugees, ex-offenders, and veterans, aligning with the Lancashire Economic Inactivity insights report, published in 2023. The Authority is seeking secure a new multi-lotted contract for the external provision of IPS (Individual

Placement Support) and SEQF (Supported Employment Quality Framework) as part of the Authority's Connect to Work project. Lot 2 is based on IPS for the North geographical area of Lancashire. (Including delivery in the districts of Fylde, Lancaster and Wyre.) The initial term of the contract commences on 5th September 2025 to 31st March 2029, with an option to extend for a further 12 months. September to early October 2025 is anticipated to be the mobilisation period for service provider(s). Delivery of support to allocated participants is estimated to commence in on the 6th October 2025 until 31st March 2029 as part of the initial contract terms, with option to extend this contract for a further 12 months.

Lot 3. Individual Placement and Support: Central West

Description

Connect to Work is a national scheme led by the DWP (Department for Work and Pensions) and is a supported employment programme targeted at specific groups of residents to enable sustained employment. The programme is focused on reversing the growth in Economic Inactivity and is targeted towards residents with health conditions and disabilities, as well as a number of groups to face barriers to gaining sustained employment, such as care leavers, carers, refugees, ex-offenders, and veterans, aligning with the Lancashire Economic Inactivity insights report, published in 2023. The Authority is seeking secure a new multi-lotted contract for the external provision of IPS (Individual Placement Support) and SEQF (Supported Employment Quality Framework) as part of the Authority's Connect to Work project. Lot 3 is based on IPS for the Central & West geographical area of Lancashire. (Including delivery in the districts of, Chorley, Preston, South Ribble and West Lancashire.) The initial term of the contract commences on 5th September 2025 to 31st March 2029, with an option to extend for a further 12 months. September to early October 2025 is anticipated to be the mobilisation period for service provider(s). Delivery of support to allocated participants is estimated to commence in on the 6th October 2025 until 31st March 2029 as part of the initial contract terms, with option to extend this contract for a further 12 months.

Lot 4. Supported Employment Quality Framework: Lancashire

Description

Connect to Work is a national scheme led by the DWP (Department for Work and

Pensions) and is a supported employment programme targeted at specific groups of residents to enable sustained employment. The programme is focused on reversing the growth in Economic Inactivity and is targeted towards residents with health conditions and disabilities, as well as a number of groups to face barriers to gaining sustained employment, such as care leavers, carers, refugees, ex-offenders, and veterans, aligning with the Lancashire Economic Inactivity insights report, published in 2023. The Authority is seeking secure a new multi-lotted contract for the external provision of IPS (Individual Placement Support) and SEQF (Supported Employment Quality Framework) as part of the Authority's Connect to Work project. Lot 4 is based on SEQF for the geographical area of Lancashire. The initial term of the contract commences on 5th September 2025 to 31st March 2029, with an option to extend for a further 12 months. September 2025 to March 2026 is anticipated to be the mobilisation period for service provider(s). Delivery of support to allocated participants is estimated to commence on the 1st April 2026 until 31st March 2029 as part of the initial contract terms, with option to extend this contract for a further 12 months.

Contract 1. Connect to Work - Lot 1: Individual Placement and Support: East

Lots

Lot 1. Individual Placement and Support: East

Supplier

- Ingeus UK Ltd

Contract value

- £7,336,781 excluding VAT

- £8,804,137 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Award decision date

5 September 2025

Date assessment summaries were sent to tenderers

5 September 2025

Standstill period

- End: 16 September 2025
- 8 working days

Earliest date the contract will be signed

17 September 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 18 September 2025 to 31 March 2029
- Possible extension to 31 March 2030
- 4 years, 6 months, 13 days

Description of possible extension:

The Authority has the option to extend this agreement beyond the Initial Term by a further

period up to a maximum of 12 months in addition to the Initial Term.

Main procurement category

Services

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

The options are the right for the Authority to extend the agreement beyond the Initial Term as stated above.

CPV classifications

- 79000000 - Business services: law, marketing, consulting, recruitment, printing and security

Contract locations

- UKD41 - Blackburn with Darwen
 - UKD46 - East Lancashire
-

Contract 2. Connect to Work - Lot 2: Individual Placement and Support: North

Lots

Lot 2. Individual Placement and Support: North

Supplier

- STANDGUIDE LIMITED

Contract value

- £4,430,067 excluding VAT
- £5,316,080 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Award decision date

5 September 2025

Date assessment summaries were sent to tenderers

5 September 2025

Standstill period

- End: 16 September 2025
- 8 working days

Earliest date the contract will be signed

17 September 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 18 September 2025 to 31 March 2029

- Possible extension to 31 March 2030
- 4 years, 6 months, 13 days

Description of possible extension:

The Authority has the option to extend this agreement beyond the Initial Term by a further period up to a maximum of 12 months in addition to the Initial Term.

Main procurement category

Services

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

The options are the right for the Authority to extend the agreement beyond the Initial Term as stated above.

CPV classifications

- 79000000 - Business services: law, marketing, consulting, recruitment, printing and security

Contract locations

- UKD42 - Blackpool
- UKD44 - Lancaster and Wyre

Contract 3. Connect to Work - Lot 3. Individual Placement and Support: Central West

Lots

Lot 3. Individual Placement and Support: Central West

Supplier

- Ingeus UK Ltd

Contract value

- £6,377,138 excluding VAT
- £7,652,566 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Award decision date

5 September 2025

Date assessment summaries were sent to tenderers

5 September 2025

Standstill period

- End: 16 September 2025
- 8 working days

Earliest date the contract will be signed

17 September 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 18 September 2025 to 31 March 2029
- Possible extension to 31 March 2030
- 4 years, 6 months, 13 days

Description of possible extension:

The Authority has the option to extend this agreement beyond the Initial Term by a further period up to a maximum of 12 months in addition to the Initial Term.

Main procurement category

Services

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

The options are the right for the Authority to extend the agreement beyond the Initial Term as stated above.

CPV classifications

- 79000000 - Business services: law, marketing, consulting, recruitment, printing and security

Contract locations

- UKD45 - Mid Lancashire
 - UKD47 - Chorley and West Lancashire
-

Contract 4. Connect to Work - Lot 4: Supported Employment Quality Framework: Lancashire

Lots

Lot 4. Supported Employment Quality Framework: Lancashire

Supplier

- MAXIMUS UK SERVICES LIMITED

Contract value

- £5,828,063 excluding VAT
- £6,993,676 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Award decision date

5 September 2025

Date assessment summaries were sent to tenderers

5 September 2025

Standstill period

- End: 16 September 2025
- 8 working days

Earliest date the contract will be signed

17 September 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 18 September 2025 to 31 March 2029
- Possible extension to 31 March 2030
- 4 years, 6 months, 13 days

Description of possible extension:

The Authority has the option to extend this agreement beyond the Initial Term by a further period up to a maximum of 12 months in addition to the Initial Term.

Main procurement category

Services

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

The options are the right for the Authority to extend the agreement beyond the Initial Term

as stated above.

CPV classifications

- 79000000 - Business services: law, marketing, consulting, recruitment, printing and security

Contract locations

- UKD4 - Lancashire

Information about tenders

Lot 1. Individual Placement and Support: East

- 8 tenders received
- 8 tenders assessed in the final stage:
 - 3 submitted by small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
 - 1 submitted by voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)
- 1 supplier awarded contracts
- 7 suppliers unsuccessful (details included for contracts over £5 million)

Unsuccessful suppliers

- [STANDGUIDE LIMITED](#)
- [BREAKTHROUGH SOCIAL ENTERPRISE LIMITED](#)
- [CALICO ENTERPRISE LIMITED](#)

- [FEDCAP EMPLOYMENT LIMITED](#)
 - [MM Training & Consultancy](#)
 - [PERTEMPS RECRUITMENT PARTNERSHIP LIMITED](#)
 - [SELNET LTD](#)
-

Lot 2. Individual Placement and Support: North

- 11 tenders received
 - 11 tenders assessed in the final stage:
 - 6 submitted by small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
 - 1 submitted by voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)
 - 1 supplier awarded contracts
 - 10 suppliers unsuccessful (details included for contracts over £5 million)
-

Unsuccessful suppliers

- [BREAKTHROUGH SOCIAL ENTERPRISE LIMITED](#)
- [MM Training & Consultancy](#)
- [PERTEMPS RECRUITMENT PARTNERSHIP LIMITED](#)
- [SELNET LTD](#)
- [ENABLE SCOTLAND \(LEADING THE WAY\)](#)
- [INSPIRA \(01\)](#)
- [Lancaster City Council](#)
- [THE SMALL BUSINESS ACADEMY LTD](#)
- [PHX TRAINING LIMITED](#)

- [TRIAGE CENTRAL LIMITED](#)
-

Lot 3. Individual Placement and Support: Central West

- 7 tenders received
 - 7 tenders assessed in the final stage:
 - 3 submitted by small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
 - 2 submitted by voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)
 - 1 supplier awarded contracts
 - 6 suppliers unsuccessful (details included for contracts over £5 million)
-

Unsuccessful suppliers

- [BREAKTHROUGH SOCIAL ENTERPRISE LIMITED](#)
 - [FEDCAP EMPLOYMENT LIMITED](#)
 - [MM Training & Consultancy](#)
 - [ACTIVE LANCASHIRE LIMITED](#)
 - [INTUITIVE THINKING SKILLS LTD](#)
 - [THE WISE GROUP](#)
-

Lot 4. Supported Employment Quality Framework: Lancashire

- 7 tenders received
- 7 tenders assessed in the final stage:
 - 3 submitted by small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
 - 1 submitted by voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

- 1 supplier awarded contracts
 - 6 suppliers unsuccessful (details included for contracts over £5 million)
-

Unsuccessful suppliers

- [BREAKTHROUGH SOCIAL ENTERPRISE LIMITED](#)
 - [FEDCAP EMPLOYMENT LIMITED](#)
 - [MM Training & Consultancy](#)
 - [Lancaster City Council](#)
 - [THE SMALL BUSINESS ACADEMY LTD](#)
 - [ACTIVE LANCASHIRE LIMITED](#)
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Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Suppliers

ACTIVE LANCASHIRE LIMITED

- Companies House: 06859894
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PBMV-8526-LZWW

3&4 Farrington House Lancashire Enterprise Business Park

Leyland

PR26 6TW

United Kingdom

Website: <http://www.activelancashire.org.uk>

Region: UKD45 - Mid Lancashire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): Yes

BREAKTHROUGH SOCIAL ENTERPRISE LIMITED

- Companies House: 12506717
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PPPQ-1492-MPXL

45 Fitzroy Street

London

W1T 6EB

United Kingdom

Website: <http://www.wearebreakthrough.co.uk>

Region: UKI31 - Camden and City of London

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

CALICO ENTERPRISE LIMITED

- Companies House: 06329047
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNRC-3214-VNRH

Centenary Court

Burnley

BB11 2ED

United Kingdom

Website: <https://calicoenterprise.org.uk/>

Region: UKD46 - East Lancashire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

ENABLE SCOTLAND (LEADING THE WAY)

- Companies House: SC145263
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PRLL-1841-WVQR

Inspire House 3 Renshaw Place

Lanarkshire

ML1 4UF

United Kingdom

Website: <http://www.enable.org.uk>

Region: UKM84 - North Lanarkshire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

FEDCAP EMPLOYMENT LIMITED

- Companies House: 11842787
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PWNX-2652-BMMT

Boaz House, Massey Road

Thornaby, Stockton-On-Tees

TS17 6EX

United Kingdom

Region: UKC11 - Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Ingeus UK Ltd

- Companies House: 04320853
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PQWB-9993-TBMX

Second Floor, 66-68 East Smithfield, Royal Pharmaceutical Building

London

E1W 1AW

United Kingdom

Email: trackers@ingeus.co.uk

Region: UKI42 - Tower Hamlets

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 1. Connect to Work - Lot 1: Individual Placement and Support: East

Contract 3. Connect to Work - Lot 3. Individual Placement and Support: Central West

INSPIRA (01)

- Companies House: 04182567
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PTZY-3871-WMVL

Castle View Gillan Way

Penrith

CA11 9BP

United Kingdom

Website: <http://www.inspira.org.uk>

Region: UKD12 - East Cumbria

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

INTUITIVE THINKING SKILLS LTD

- Companies House: 05204890
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PLBG-1598-TRDT

The Think Tank, 457 Chester Road

Trafford

M16 9HA

United Kingdom

Website: <http://www.intuitivethinkingskills.com>

Region: UKD34 - Greater Manchester South West

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Lancaster City Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PTQG-8236-WVNZ

Town Hall, Dalton Square

Lancaster

LA1 1PJ

United Kingdom

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

Region: UKD44 - Lancaster and Wyre

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

MAXIMUS UK SERVICES LIMITED

- Companies House: 09072343
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PTZH-8512-MRCL

18c Meridian East

Leicester

LE19 1WZ

United Kingdom

Email: tendertracking@maximusuk.co.uk

Website: <http://www.maximusuk.co.uk>

Region: UKF22 - Leicestershire CC and Rutland

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 4. Connect to Work - Lot 4: Supported Employment Quality Framework:
Lancashire

MM Training & Consultancy

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PQWJ-9886-DCHH

73 Gisburn Road

Preston

PR2 6SS

United Kingdom

Website: <http://mmtrainingconsultancy.com>

Region: UKD45 - Mid Lancashire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

PERTEMPS RECRUITMENT PARTNERSHIP LIMITED

- Companies House: 01644241
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PLZH-3661-DWHL

Meriden Hall

Meriden

CV7 7PT

United Kingdom

Website: <http://www.pertemps.co.uk>

Region: UKG32 - Solihull

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

PHX TRAINING LIMITED

- Companies House: 05026641
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PTRV-5583-BXTT

Accounts Dept,3-5 Victoria Place

Carlisle

CA1 1EJ

United Kingdom

Website: <http://www.phxtraining.co.uk>

Region: UKD12 - East Cumbria

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

SELNET LTD

- Companies House: 05671228
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PJCL-5593-TQCW

Brentwood House Victoria Road

Preston

PR2 8PS

United Kingdom

Website: <https://selnet-uk.com/>

Region: UKD45 - Mid Lancashire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): Yes

STANDGUIDE LIMITED

- Companies House: 02563257
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PXVG-4195-YZCQ

Unit G.01 Clarence Arcade

Ashton-Under-Lyne

OL6 7PT

United Kingdom

Email: businessdevelopment@standguide.co.uk

Website: <http://www.standguide.co.uk>

Region: UKD35 - Greater Manchester South East

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 2. Connect to Work - Lot 2: Individual Placement and Support: North

THE SMALL BUSINESS ACADEMY LTD

- Companies House: 12928210
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PZQV-4236-WBGL

Peel House Peel Hall Business Park

Blackpool

FY4 5JX

United Kingdom

Website: <http://thesmallbusinessacademy.co.uk>

Region: UKD45 - Mid Lancashire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

THE WISE GROUP

- Companies House: SC091095
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PCRY-2173-GLGX

62 Templeton Street, Templeton Business Centre, Third Floor Doges

Glasgow

G40 1DA

United Kingdom

Website: <https://www.thewisegroup.co.uk/>

Region: UKM82 - Glasgow City

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): Yes

TRIAGE CENTRAL LIMITED

- Companies House: SC186908
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PGYR-4561-XQMT

Earlsgate House

Stirling

FK8 2HE

United Kingdom

Website: <http://www.triage.net>

Region: UKM77 - Perth & Kinross and Stirling

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contracting authority

Lancashire County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PBBJ-2179-TNXM

PO Box 100, County Hall

Preston

PR1 0LD

United Kingdom

Email: contractscorporate@lancashire.gov.uk

Region: UKD45 - Mid Lancashire

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government

Other organisations

These organisations are carrying out the procurement, or part of it, on behalf of the contracting authorities.

SOCIAL VALUE PORTAL LTD

Summary of their role in this procurement: Evaluation of Social Value

- Companies House: 09197997
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PQHH-4489-TLZM

Tintagel House

London

SE1 7TY

United Kingdom

Email: sales@socialvalueportal.com

Region: UKI45 - Lambeth

BLACKPOOL COUNCIL

Summary of their role in this procurement: Assistance in tender evaluations

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHHB-5249-RZVD

PO Box 11, Town Hall

Blackpool

FY1 1NB

United Kingdom

Email: FTSprocurementnotices@blackpool.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.blackpool.gov.uk>

Region: UKD42 - Blackpool

Blackburn With Darwen Borough Council

Summary of their role in this procurement: Assistance in tender evaluations

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PYGR-1856-CVXM

Town Hall, King William Street

Blackburn

BB1 7DY

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@blackburn.gov.uk

Region: UKD41 - Blackburn with Darwen

Contact organisation

Contact Lancashire County Council for any enquiries.