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Planning

CPH130 Social Connectedness Service

Derbyshire County Council

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

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Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-059cbb

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Scope

Reference

CPH130

Description

****PRELIMINARY MARKET ENGAGEMENT****

We are seeking to engage with organisations to gather information and explore potential solutions for achieving the Social Connectedness objectives.

This Preliminary Market Engagement is being undertaken to seek ideas and information from interested organisations by completing a questionnaire to:

- Ensure any future service is well designed, efficient, effective, delivering value for money and meets people's needs and desired outcomes.

- Design of the service level agreement.
- Determine the capacity of the market to supply the service and the level of interest in the anticipated forthcoming service procurement.

Derbyshire County Council's intention is to develop and design services for social connection to provide effective, prevention focused social connection initiatives to reduce loneliness, improve wellbeing, make best use of community assets, and increase the resilience of local communities.

DCC will be considering a range of commissioning arrangements, with initial ideas for geographical 'lots' set out in the project information document and we are keen to hear from potential providers on the options they believe could work best or other options.

The contract length currently under consideration will be for 2 years from November 2026, with the option to extend for 1 further period of twelve months.

The funding for the model is allocated at £400,000 per annum, with a total potential financial envelope of £1.2m (if the extension option is taken).

Total value (estimated)

- £1,200,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 November 2026 to 31 October 2028
- Possible extension to 31 October 2029
- 3 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

Contract locations

- UKF1 - Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire

Engagement

Engagement deadline

20 October 2025

Engagement process description

The Soft Market information can be accessed via the following link: <https://procontract.due-north.com/Advert?advertId=8002ce34-a393-f011-813a-005056b64545>

Please complete the online questionnaire which can be accessed via the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/cRdQVt2Uir> or within the Soft Market information document.

The deadline for completion of the questionnaire is 5pm on Friday 3/10/2025

Attend a Microsoft Teams information event on 22/10/2025 at 11am - this event will last for approx. 1 hour. Please confirm you intend to attend by emailing first.contact@derbyshire.gov.uk by Monday 20 October. You will then be sent a Microsoft Teams calendar invite. Attendance at the event is not mandatory as part of responding to this Preliminary Market Engagement Exercise and is intended as a further information and Question and Answer session.

If we need to seek any additional clarification or detail around a response, then we will contact the organisation/responder directly.

Next Steps After the Market Engagement

The Council anticipates undertaking a procurement exercise subject to Preliminary market engagement outcomes early 2026.

Participation

Particular suitability

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

Procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Contracting authority

Derbyshire County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PWZQ-2162-JJQL

County Hall

Matlock

DE4 3AG

United Kingdom

Email: Countyprocurementcompliance.team@derbyshire.gov.uk

Region: UKF13 - South and West Derbyshire

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government