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Tender

Berkshire Connect to Work Programme

Wokingham Borough Council

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-058679

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-050ab9 ([view related notices](#))

Published 22 September 2025, 5:11pm

Scope

Reference

DN790237

Description

The commissioning of a Supported employment service using both models of Supported Employment (Individual Placement and Support and Supported Employment Quality Framework) for eligible and suitable participants.

Connect to Work is a major DWP-funded programme that will take a collaborative, locally led approach to tackling 'Hidden Unemployment'. It will help connect local work, health and skills support. The funding provides a coherent, systematic and joined up approach to maximise the benefits available for individuals and local communities.

The Berkshire Connect to Work Programme intends to appoint a Prime Contractor to

deliver the service across all six Berkshire Boroughs, with Wokingham Borough Council as Accountable Body.

Total value (estimated)

- £7,666,780 excluding VAT
- £9,200,136 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 December 2025 to 30 November 2028
- Possible extension to 30 November 2030
- 5 years

Description of possible extension:

This is a 3 year initial contract with optional extensions up to 24 months in total. An extension beyond 31 March 2030 will only be allowed, subject to additional funding being approved. Extensions to the contract are at the Accountable Body's discretion and will depend on budget availability and performance being in line with expectations.

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

If further funding becomes available during the course of the contract, the Accountable Body will use the funding to increase the number of Participants in the programme to the maximum allowable under the Procurement Act 2023.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80521000 - Training programme services

Contract locations

- UKJ11 - Berkshire

Submission

Enquiry deadline

9 October 2025, 5:00pm

Tender submission deadline

23 October 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

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

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

14 November 2025

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Quality	Quality Weighting	Quality	80%
Price	Price Weighting	Price	20%

Other information

Description of risks to contract performance

Contract may need to be amended at any time if DWP increases or reduces/withdraws funding. This may happen if performance does not meet expectations, or exceeds expectations.

Applicable trade agreements

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Justification for not publishing a preliminary market engagement notice

The justification for not publishing a PME is that this engagement was undertaken prior to PA2023 going live where this requirement was not in place.

We have undertaken informal market engagement across Berkshire and held sessions for large and small providers to help shape and inform our decision making around project design:

- Berkshire Cluster has held events on the design of the programme and provided an opportunity to identify potential providers.
- These sessions have helped us to shape our delivery plan, in its current form with one Prime Contractor, subcontracting, where appropriate, with smaller, local and specialist provision. The reasons for this included:
 - Capacity and resources across the 6 Local Authorities
 - Geography of the area
 - Size and scale of the project

- Current provision

Contracting authority

Wokingham Borough Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNTM-6852-HGRP

Civic Offices, Shute End

Wokingham

RG40 1BN

United Kingdom

Contact name: Mr Keith Robertson

Telephone: +44 1182379133

Email: keith.robertson@wokingham.gov.uk

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

Region: UKJ11 - Berkshire

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government