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Award

Connect to Work (Greater Essex)

Essex County Council

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-070175

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

Published 31 October 2025, 3:23pm

Scope

Reference

PL0106

Description

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.

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.

Contract 1

Supplier

- SHAW TRUST LIMITED(THE)

Contract value

- £9,803,898 excluding VAT
- £11,764,677 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Award decision date

31 October 2025

Date assessment summaries were sent to tenderers

31 October 2025

Standstill period

- End: 12 November 2025
- 9 working days

Earliest date the contract will be signed

14 November 2025

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:

Possible extension as follows:

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

Information about tenders

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

Unsuccessful suppliers

- [GET SKILLS EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING LTD](#)
- [SEETEC BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY CENTRE LIMITED](#)
- [THE SAPPHIRE EMPLOYABILITY AND WELLBEING ACADEMY LTD](#)

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Suppliers

GET SKILLS EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING LTD

- Companies House: 07083531
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PCWM-2653-WRMG

86-90, Paul Street

London

EC2A 4NE

United Kingdom

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

Region: UKI41 - Hackney and Newham

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

SEETEC BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY CENTRE LIMITED

- Companies House: 02291188
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PGVV-9925-QLMM

75/77 Main Road

Essex

SS5 4RG

United Kingdom

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

Region: UKH37 - Essex Thames Gateway

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

SHAW TRUST LIMITED(THE)

- Companies House: 01744121
- Charity Commission (England and Wales): 287785

Black Country House, Rounds Green Road

Oldbury

B69 2DG

United Kingdom

Email: business.development@shaw-trust.org.uk

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

Region: UKG37 - Sandwell

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): Yes

Supported employment provider: Yes

Public service mutual: No

Associated people/organisations:

1. IDEAS PLUS (Trading as Employ-Ability)

Address: The Latton Bush Centre, Southern Way, Harlow, Essex, CM18 7BL

2. Dynamic New Anglian (DNA) Networks

Address; 7 St. Peters Court, Middleborough Colchester,

CO1 1WD

3. The Poppy Factory

Address:

Contract 1

THE SAPPHIRE EMPLOYABILITY AND WELLBEING ACADEMY LTD

- Companies House: 14828368
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHCM-5217-DDTM

Unit 28, 43 and 44 The Business Centre St. Olav's Court, Lower Road, Southwark

London

SE16 2XB

United Kingdom

Website: <https://www.sapphirecommunity.org/>

Region: UKI44 - Lewisham and Southwark

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): Yes

Contracting authority

Essex County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PWVM-4844-NRQH

County Hall, Market Road

Chelmsford

CM1 1QH

United Kingdom

Email: melody.mahachi@essex.gov.uk

Region: UKH36 - Heart of Essex

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government

