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Tender

NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL LOCAL BUS FRAMEWORK

North Northamptonshire Council

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-070191

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05d849 ([view related notices](#))

Published 31 October 2025, 3:37pm

Scope

Reference

NNC00000656

Description

North Northamptonshire Council wish to develop a bus framework which will play a role in enhancing accessibility across North Northants. As a relatively new authority, this framework aims to either replace services previously Procured by the former Northamptonshire County Council, and/or to introduce new services, with the potential for them to be commercially viable by the end of the contracts. This framework will be opened in accordance with the requirements under the Procurement Act 2023 (or sooner if deemed necessary by the Council) and all call off contracts will be awarded via further competition only.

Please review the full document set for further details.

Commercial tool

Establishes an open framework

A series of frameworks with substantially the same terms. Awarded suppliers are carried over and new suppliers can bid.

Total value (estimated)

- £36,000,000 excluding VAT
- £43,200,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 2 February 2026 to 1 February 2030
- 4 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 60112000 - Public road transport services

Contract locations

- UKF25 - North Northamptonshire

Justification for not using lots

Although this requirement could be broken into lots, perhaps by vehicle type / size doing so would not benefit providers or the Council.

The market is small and it would be likely that lots would consist of very few providers / very low competition.

There are no direct awards via this framework, only further competitions which will consist of all providers being invited to take part. Further competitions will consist of a variety of contract sizes and requirements which would suit both large providers SME's and VCSE.

Framework

Open framework scheme end date (estimated)

1 February 2030

Maximum number of suppliers

Unlimited

Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers

0%

Framework operation description

Prices will be determined via further competition, however indicative pricing is requested for information purposes only.

The selection process requires providers to complete and submit a number of

questionnaires to determine providers ability to meet the Councils minimum criteria.

Award method when using the framework

With competition

Contracting authorities that may use the framework

Establishing party only

Participation

Particular suitability

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

Submission

Enquiry deadline

28 November 2025, 4:00pm

Tender submission deadline

5 December 2025, 1:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/nnc/asp/Home>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

16 December 2025

Recurring procurement

Publication date of next tender notice (estimated): 1 December 2026

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type
At Further competition stage only	At further competition stage both quality and price will be considered criteria for each individual further competition required.	Quality

Weighting description

After tenders are submitted, successful providers will be admitted onto the framework only where there is no guarantee of work. All call offs from the framework will be via further competition, which will be scored on both price and quality with those criteria being tailored on a case by case basis.

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Justification for not publishing a preliminary market engagement notice

The Procurement in this instance is to create a framework, which was considered that engagement did not materially affect the procurement procedure, criteria, or specifications. The window to apply is also longer than the minimum requirement allowing more time for providers to ask clarification questions, if this is deemed necessary.

Contracting authority

North Northamptonshire Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PQCM-5634-HGCN

The Corby Cube, George Street

Corby

NN17 1QG

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@northnorthants.gov.uk

Region: UKF25 - North Northamptonshire

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government