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Planning

002150 - Preliminary Market Engagement (PME) for the provision of a Library Management System

Durham County Council

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-070752

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05d69e ([view related notices](#))

Published 4 November 2025, 11:11am

Changes to notice

This notice has been edited. The [previous version](#) is still available.

Deadline for PME responses changed to Friday 7th November at 10am.

Scope

Reference

OPEN20251857

Description

Durham County Council is continuing its engagement with the market following the initial soft market testing questionnaire issued in August 2024 under reference DN735615 via the NEPO portal, concerning the provision of a new Library Management System. System demonstrations held in November and December 2024 have supported the Council's specification development and strategic planning. While there have been some delays, the project is now progressing at pace.

The Council is seeking further preliminary engagement from suppliers to explore potential additional services that could be incorporated into any future tendering opportunity.

While the Council's previous engagements have confirmed that the majority of requirements for School Library Services can be met by standard off-the-shelf Library Management Systems without the need for bespoke development, there remain a number of specific requirements that have not yet been fully explored. The Council is therefore undertaking a deeper review focused on these areas to determine whether they can be fulfilled through existing system capabilities, general configuration, or integration with third-party solutions. This further engagement will help inform the most appropriate route forward for any future procurement activity.

Total value (estimated)

- £450,000 excluding VAT
- £540,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 February 2026 to 31 January 2036
- 10 years

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 48160000 - Library software package

Contract locations

- UKC14 - Durham CC

Engagement

Engagement deadline

7 November 2025

Engagement process description

Durham County Council is continuing its engagement with the market following the initial soft market testing questionnaire issued in August 2024 under reference DN735615 via the NEPO portal, concerning the provision of a new Library Management System. System demonstrations held in November and December 2024 have supported the Council's specification development and strategic planning. While there have been some delays, the project is now progressing at pace. The Council is seeking further preliminary engagement from suppliers to explore potential additional services that could be incorporated into any future tendering opportunity.

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The written response questionnaire can be accessed free of charge by registering on the Open Portal at open-uk.org.

Responses must be submitted through the Open Portal by Friday 7th November at 10am.

Contracting authority

Durham County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PMPB-8772-VYWM

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Region: UKC14 - Durham CC

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government