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Award

WMCA Connect To Work - Black Country

West Midlands Combined Authority

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-075656

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0511cc ([view related notices](#))

Published 20 November 2025, 1:07pm

Scope

Reference

2730488

Description

West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA), in partnership with City of Wolverhampton Council, Dudley MBC, Sandwell, MBC and Walsall MBC are pleased to announce their intention to procure Supported Employment provision for disabled residents, residents with long-term health conditions, and other agreed disadvantaged groups with complex barriers to sustain work.

Set out in the Adults Skills and Employment Functional Strategy

<https://governance.wmca.org.uk/documents/s23891/Appendix> 3 Functional Strategies

Merged.pdf, our ambition is to develop an integrated employment and skills system that stimulates economic growth and delivers better outcomes for residents and businesses. Central to realising this is the flexibility we have secured as part of our deeper devolution deal, which gives the WMCA further policy influence with our system partners DWP and DfE, and control over adult skills and employment spending through the Integrated Settlement.

The opportunity created by the Get Britain Working White Paper paves the way for further devolved responsibility for employment support working in partnership with DWP. Demonstrated through a devolved role in supported employment through the new Connect to Work programme and stronger role in partnership with DWP to deliver better outcomes for residents, it will further enable us to deliver our ambition for an integrated system that meets residents' needs, especially those disadvantaged in the labour market through ill health or disability, in alignment with the region's three Integrated Care Board's WorkWell pilots.

Through Integrated Settlement, WMCA has secured funding to support up to 1400 participants to sustain work through the delivery of Individual Placement & Support (IPS) and Supported Employment Quality Framework (SEQF) models in 2025-26, with the potential to extend and scale up delivery in subsequent years. WMCA's Adult Skills & Employment Functional Strategy is available online through the following link: <https://www.wmca.org.uk/documents/integrated-settlement/adult-skills-employment-functional-strategy/> with WMCA's approach to Connect to Work outlined in the Connect to Work Business Justification Case found here: <https://governance.wmca.org.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=135&MId=1228&Ver=4>

Contract 1. Connect to Work - Black Country

Supplier

- The Shaw Trust

Contract value

- £4,566,530.40 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Award decision date

20 November 2025

Date assessment summaries were sent to tenderers

20 November 2025

Standstill period

- End: 2 December 2025
- 8 working days

Earliest date the contract will be signed

5 December 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 15 December 2025 to 31 March 2028
- 2 years, 3 months, 17 days

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80000000 - Education and training services

Information about tenders

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

Participation

This procurement was reserved for

Supported employment providers

Submission

Submission type

Requests to participate

Procedure

Procedure type

Competitive flexible procedure

Supplier

The Shaw Trust

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDDX-5177-LHBW

Black Country House

Oldbury

B69 2DG

United Kingdom

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

Region: UKG37 - Sandwell

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): Yes

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: Yes

Contract 1. Connect to Work - Black Country

Contracting authority

West Midlands Combined Authority

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PGMD-1353-PZVX

16 Summer Lane

Birmingham

B19 3SD

United Kingdom

Email: procurement.team@wmca.org.uk

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

Region: UKG31 - Birmingham

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government

Other organisations

These organisations are carrying out the procurement, or part of it, on behalf of the contracting authorities.

City of Wolverhampton Council

Summary of their role in this procurement: Evaluation of Tenders

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVBV-7568-LBLL

Civic Centre, St Peters Square

Wolverhampton

WV1 1SH

United Kingdom

Contact name: Julie Obada

Email: Julie.obada@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk>

Region: UKG39 - Wolverhampton

Walsall MBC

Summary of their role in this procurement: Evaluation of Tenders

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHGR-7481-DHXR

Civic Centre

Walsall

WS1 1XU

United Kingdom

Contact name: Jane Kaur

Email: Jane.Kaur-Gill@walsall.gov.uk

Website: <http://go.walsall.gov.uk>

Region: UKG38 - Walsall

Dudley MBC

Summary of their role in this procurement: Evaluation of Tenders

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PWYJ-3537-GLBW

The Council House, Priory Road

Dudley

DY1 1HF

United Kingdom

Contact name: Viv Webb

Email: Viv.Webb@dudley.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.dudley.gov.uk>

Region: UKG36 - Dudley

Sandwell MBC

Summary of their role in this procurement: Evaluation of Tenders

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PJHD-8764-YRJJ

Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street

Oldbury

B69 3DE

United Kingdom

Contact name: Kelly Harris

Email: Kelly.Harris@sandwell.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.sandwell.gov.uk>

Region: UKG37 - Sandwell

Contact organisation

Contact West Midlands Combined Authority for any enquiries.