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Planning

Cross Regional Project

Oxfordshire County Council

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-078049

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05eafb

Published 28 November 2025, 12:16pm

Scope

Description

Cross Regional contract on behalf of Councils Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, Milton Keynes, Reading, Bedfordshire and Oxfordshire to offer residential and educational provision for Children We Care For (CWCF) with complex social, behavioural and educational needs.

Cross Regional Project (CRP) delivers therapeutic residential care and educational services for children aged 11–17 with complex needs, operating across 11 homes in partner counties offering 36 placements.

A registered special school, commissioned under a block contract, provides education for pupils aged 11–17—including those without EHCPs—across Key Stages 3 to 5.

The new service will launch on August 1, 2027, starting with 36 placements and potentially expanding by 24 more. After six months, partners can buy extra placements at any time during the contract.

Total value (estimated)

- £172,000,000 excluding VAT
- £206,400,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 August 2027 to 31 July 2032
- Possible extension to 31 July 2037
- 10 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 85300000 - Social work and related services

Contract locations

- UKH2 - Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire
- UKJ1 - Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire

Engagement

Engagement deadline

19 December 2025

Engagement process description

This is a preliminary market to seek views from potential providers on how best to deliver Cross Regional Project that offers residential, educational and therapeutic services for children aged 11 to 17 inclusive with complex needs.

To partake in this preliminary market engagement, potential providers can register on and access the Council's e-tendering system - Proactis on: <https://procontract.due-north.com/ProjectManagement/ProjectDashboard?projectId=16101b29-4acc-f011-813a-005056b64545> then clicking on the "Opportunities" tile to search for the pre-market engagement project (reference:DN798997).

A preliminary market engagement questionnaire will be available on this project for providers to download and respond to by the end of Friday 19th December 2025.

Please note that any commercially sensitive information supplied by providers will be stored confidentially and will not be disclosed to any third party.

Also note that this is neither a call for competition nor a procurement exercise.

Participation

Particular suitability

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

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

5 February 2026

Procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Contracting authority

Oxfordshire County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PZNW-8281-MHNM

County Hall

Oxford

OX1 1ND

United Kingdom

Contact name: Ms Priscilla Opere Mintah

Email: Startwellprocurement@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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

Region: UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government