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Tender

## Create Talent Programme

North East Combined Authority

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-078141

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-059976 ([view related notices](#))

Published 28 November 2025, 2:29pm

## Scope

## Reference

OPEN20252060

## Description

The Create Talent Programme is an innovative, industry led skills programme that will support the North East's thriving creative sector, focusing on the music, arts, writing and publishing and the screen industry. The programme will play a key part in delivering the Mayor and Cabinet's mission 'Home to a growing and vibrant economy for all', providing our workforce with the right skills and training to build an inclusive and competitive economy.

The programme will provide sector-leading, inclusive and needs-led pathways for aspiring creatives, encouraging people of all ages from diverse backgrounds to aspire to a career in the creative sector. Alongside this, it will support freelancers and enterprises to develop high-level skills in creative practices. By focusing on identified skills needs and transferable skills, it will equip our freelance community with the fundamental skills to build, sustain and grow their practice as effective freelancers employed in the creative sector.

This procurement opportunity is seeking delivery partnerships led by creative industry specialists, provision must combine practical experience with theoretical knowledge and be delivered in real work environments (e.g., studios, writing hubs) alongside community venues.

In the partnership arrangement, a lead provider will be responsible for coordinating delivery across all partners, ensuring that the target number of participants is supported and that the allocated funding is utilised effectively and in line with programme objectives.

### **Total value (estimated)**

- £3,950,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

### **Contract dates (estimated)**

- 6 February 2026 to 6 February 2029
- 3 years, 1 day

### **Main procurement category**

Services

### **CPV classifications**

- 80400000 - Adult and other education services

### **Contract locations**

- UKC14 - Durham CC

- UKC2 - Northumberland and Tyne and Wear

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## **Participation**

### **Particular suitability**

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

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## **Submission**

### **Enquiry deadline**

28 December 2025, 5:00pm

### **Tender submission deadline**

9 January 2026, 12:00pm

### **Submission address and any special instructions**

[www.open-uk.org](http://www.open-uk.org)

Open reference number: OPEN20252060

**Tenders may be submitted electronically**

Yes

## Languages that may be used for submission

English

## Award decision date (estimated)

6 February 2026

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## Award criteria

Name	Type	Weighting
Quality	Quality	90%
Price	Price	10%

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## Other information

### Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

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## Procedure

### Procedure type

Open procedure

## **Special regime**

Light touch

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## **Documents**

### **Associated tender documents**

<http://www.open-uk.org>

Documents available reference number OPEN20252060

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## **Contracting authority**

### **North East Combined Authority**

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PJMR-6594-BRGH

The Lumen, St James' Boulevard

Newcastle Upon Tyne

NE4 5BZ

United Kingdom

Email: [procurement@northeast-ca.gov.uk](mailto:procurement@northeast-ca.gov.uk)

Region: UKC22 - Tyneside

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government