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Tender

WSCC Independent Alternative Provision (IAP)

West Sussex County Council

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - view information about notice types
Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-080010
Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-052226 (view related notices)
Published 5 December 2025, 10:09am

Changes to notice

This notice has been edited. The previous version is still available.

The tender submission deadline has been amended and pushed back to Monday the 15th of December 2025.

Scope

Reference

C21325

Description

The Authority is committed to ensuring access to high-quality education for all Learners, in line with statutory duties under the Education Act. To achieve this, we commission Independent Alternative Provision (IAP) to complement mainstream education, provide short-term interventions, and deliver Education Other Than At School (EOTAS) packages where appropriate.

This Framework will operate in addition to the Authority's commissioned placements at the Ofsted-regulated West Sussex Alternative Provision College (APC), which offers full-time education.

The Framework aims to secure safe, high-quality Alternative Provision that: acts as an intervention, not a destination; supports timely reintegration and/or transition of Learners into long-term education, training, or employment; and meets the individual needs of Learners, particularly Learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) with a particular demand on provisions supporting Learners with Social Emotional Mental Health (SEMH) and Autism.

The Framework has been updated to align with the Non-School Alternative Provision Voluntary National Standards (August 2025), ensuring Suppliers meet nationally recognized benchmarks for quality and safeguarding.

Structure of the Framework

This opportunity does not include separate Lots. Suppliers may apply for one or more Tiers and can request to add additional Tiers at any point during the Framework term.

Tier 1: Provision commissioned by schools for Learners at risk of placement breakdown (e.g., short-term intervention to maintain engagement).

Tier 2: Transitional placements commissioned by the Authority while seeking a permanent education setting.

Tier 3: Provision commissioned by the Authority for Learners with an agreed EOTAS package.

Tier 4: Specialist targeted support commissioned by the Authority for Learners supported by a multi-disciplinary team.

The Tender Document pack , including full details of the services required, can be viewed via the Authority's e-tendering Portal. https://atamis-7669.my.site.com/s/Welcome

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)

- £224,595,000 excluding VAT
- £224,595,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 March 2026 to 28 February 2028
- Possible extension to 28 February 2034
- 8 years

Description of possible extension:

Initial term of two years with the option to extend in increments of up to two years. Maximum term of eight years.

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

The right to add additional tiers while the contract is valid.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80000000 - Education and training services

Contract locations

- UKJ2 - Surrey, East and West Sussex

Framework

Open framework scheme end date (estimated)

28 February 2034

Maximum number of suppliers

Unlimited

Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers

0%

Framework operation description

Light Touch Regime Open Framework permanently open with quarterly evaluations.

Award method when using the framework

Either with or without 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

2 December 2025, 12:00pm

Tender submission deadline

15 December 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

https://atamis-7669.my.site.com/s/Welcome

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

20 February 2026

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Quality	Weighting 100%	Quality	100%

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Documents

Associated tender documents

https://atamis-7669.my.site.com/s/Welcome

Contracting authority

West Sussex County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PXJW-5627-QRQR

County Hall, West Street

Chichester

PO19 1RQ

United Kingdom

Email: BSDProcurement@westsussex.gov.uk

Region: UKJ27 - West Sussex (South West)

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government