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Award

Domestic Abuse Specialist Counselling and Therapy (DASCAT) Service

Warwickshire County Council

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-080568

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05a3b0 ([view related notices](#))

Published 8 December 2025, 12:26pm

Scope

Reference

WAR - 0004

Description

Warwickshire County Council (the Council) is seeking to award a single contract for the delivery of a Domestic Abuse Specialist Counselling and Therapy (DASCAT) Service for adults and children across Warwickshire. The service will provide specialist counselling and therapy to victim-survivors of domestic abuse, whether they are residing in safe/relevant accommodation or in their own homes (please see the Domestic Act 2021 for specification of safe/relevant accommodation).

The service is expected to support a minimum of 400 victim-survivors of domestic abuse annually, through a combination of 1:1 and group sessions. Of these, at least 300 individuals are expected to receive an average of 10 1:1 counselling/therapy sessions each.

The service will support both adult and child victim-survivors of domestic abuse. In line

with the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, children are recognised as victims in their own right, entitled to protection, support, and recovery services tailored to their unique experiences and needs.

Current demand for the service suggests therapeutic interventions will be required for a minimum of 240 adult victim-survivors (60%) and 160 children/young people victim survivors

(40%) per year, with approximately half residing in safe/relevant

accommodation.

The service will be delivered countywide, with a mix of face-to-face, online, and telephone based support, and must be accessible across all five districts and boroughs. Delivery must be flexible to meet the needs of victim-survivors, including availability during evenings, weekends, and school holidays.

The Council intends to award this contract to one provider who can demonstrate the ability to deliver a high-quality, inclusive, and evidence-based counselling and therapy service. The service must be registered with or working towards accreditation with a

recognised professional body (e.g. BACP, NCPS, UKCP) and be able to deliver a range of counselling and therapeutic interventions, that can be delivered through 1:1 and group sessions.

Aim of service

The primary aim of the service is to support victim-survivors of domestic abuse to recover and heal from their domestic abuse experiences, through the provision of a Domestic Abuse Specialist Counselling and Therapy Service. The service will seek to reduce the harmful impact of domestic abuse on victim-survivors' mental health and well-being.

Domestic abuse often leads to long-term physical injuries, chronic pain, and mental health conditions including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, and anxiety.

Therapy can play a crucial role in preventing and addressing the harmful effects of domestic abuse by:

- Helping victim-survivors learn strategies to protect themselves and seek help before situations become more dangerous.
- Breaking the intergenerational cycle of trauma impact.

By engaging victim-survivors in effective therapeutic interventions to improve their

wellbeing and provide trauma stabilisation, it is expected that the likelihood of intergenerational/transgenerational trauma on child victim-survivors will be consequentially reduced.

Survivors of domestic abuse are at a higher risk of suicide or self-harm due to the trauma they experience. Therapeutic Counselling provides a safe space to process emotions and develop healthier coping strategies.

Contract 1. Domestic Abuse Specialist Counselling and Therapy (DASCAT) Service

Supplier

- LISTENING EAR (MERSEYSIDE)

Contract value

- £3,059,000 excluding VAT
- £3,671,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Award decision date

8 December 2025

Date assessment summaries were sent to tenderers

8 December 2025

Standstill period

- End: 17 December 2025
- 8 working days

Earliest date the contract will be signed

22 December 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 June 2026 to 30 September 2029
- Possible extension to 1 October 2033
- 7 years, 4 months, 1 day

Description of possible extension:

The initial contract term will be for 3 years and 4 months however the Council reserves the right to extend the contract by further periods not exceeding 48 months (48 being the maximum available extension period) at the discretion of the Council based on the contract performance of the successful applicant.

Main procurement category

Services

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

Development and adaptation of the service as detailed in the Specification. The need to address the risks to contract performance identified in the tender documents.

CPV classifications

- 85000000 - Health and social work services
- 98000000 - Other community, social and personal services

Contract locations

- UKG13 - Warwickshire

Information about tenders

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

Submission

Submission type

Tenders

Procedure

Procedure type

Competitive flexible procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Supplier

LISTENING EAR (MERSEYSIDE)

- Companies House: 05999650
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHRP-6713-BXMN

St Nicholas Centre 70 Church Road

Liverpool

L26 6LB

United Kingdom

Email: enquiries@listening-ear.co.uk

Website: <http://www.listening-ear.co.uk>

Region: UKD71 - East Merseyside

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 1. Domestic Abuse Specialist Counselling and Therapy (DASCAT) Service

Contracting authority

Warwickshire County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDTN-5446-NMXW

Shire Hall

Warwick

CV34 4SA

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@warwickshire.gov.uk

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

Region: UKG13 - Warwickshire

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government