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Tender

376F_26 Library Stock

Leicestershire County Council, trading as ESPO

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-080940

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04f88e ([view related notices](#))

Published 9 December 2025, 10:34am

Scope

Reference

376F_26

Description

National framework agreement for the supply of 'shelf-ready' stock to libraries, serviced to individual specification. Including associated services.

The Framework is divided into 2 lots.

Please refer to the tender documents for further details - the closing date for submission of Tenders is 12:00 (12 noon) on 19 January 2026.

To tender (please proceed to step (e) if an expression of interest has already been completed):

(a) Go to <https://www.eastmidtenders.org/>; (b) Register (if not already registered on ProContract); (c) Search for tender opportunity '376F_26' (via "View Opportunities" from the EastMidsTenders Portal); (d) Express an interest; (e) Download the tender documents

(from the ProContract Activity summary screen).

Any questions or clarifications relating to this tender opportunity should be submitted to ESPO as a message on the eProcurement Portal, once an Expression of interest has been completed.

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Total value (estimated)

- £52,800,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2028
- Possible extension to 31 March 2030
- 4 years

Description of possible extension:

The framework agreement has the option to extend for up to a further 24 months, and ESPO may choose to use the extension periods where:

- The framework is performing well;
- The framework continues to meet customer needs.

ESPO reserves the right to implement the extension period in part, full, or in increments (such as 2x 12-month periods).

Total estimated values captured in this notice include the option to extend the framework

as noted above.

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

ESPO reserves the right to add or remove requirements throughout the life of the contract.

Main procurement category

Goods

Additional procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 22000000 - Printed matter and related products

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Lot 1. Adult Stock

Description

Suppliers awarded to this lot will be required to be able to provide a wide range of services stock from all of the below categories:

- Adult fiction
- Adult non-fiction
- Reference materials

For further details, please refer to the tender documents.

Lot value (estimated)

- £26,400,000 including VAT

Framework lot values may be shared with other lots

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations, contract dates and options are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot 2. Children's Stock

Description

Suppliers awarded to this lot will be required to be able to provide a wide range of services stock from both of the below categories:

- Children's fiction, including board books
- Children's non-fiction

For further details, please refer to the tender documents.

Lot value (estimated)

- £26,400,000 including VAT

Framework lot values may be shared with other lots

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations, contract dates and options are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Framework

Maximum number of suppliers

Unlimited

Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers

0.5%

Further information about fees

As a public body, ESPO have a statutory obligation to recover the costs incurred in the management of this Framework. This obligation is met by means of a Framework Fee which will be payable by the Suppliers to ESPO based on the total turnover of business conducted by them under the Framework.

For further details, please refer to the tender documents.

Framework operation description

Customers wishing to buy library stock via the Framework will do so in the following way in accordance with section 45 of the Procurement Act 2023 (and any subsequent amendment or re-enactment thereof):

Call-off with competition (Further Competitive Selection Process)

'Calling-off' by conducting a further competitive selection process amongst those Suppliers identified in the Framework as being able to provide the required Goods and Services. This means that not all competitive selection processes will necessarily include all the Suppliers - a customer will only invite those Suppliers that are included in the Framework for the particular type and location of contract required. Customers will assess the suppliers as set out in the terms and conditions of the Framework.

Please note that once this Framework is established, the right is reserved by the Customer when running a further competitive selection process, to invite the Suppliers to participate in an eAuction.

Please refer to the tender documents for any further details.

ESPO Trading Limited Second Framework:

ESPO has established a commercial trading company, ESPO Trading Limited, whose target clients are third sector organisations such as national and local charities, public sector mutual organisations and other organisations involved in the delivery of services to or for the public sector. The successful Supplier may be asked to enter into an additional separate framework agreement (the Second Framework) with ESPO Trading Limited on materially similar terms to that found in the tender pack to be entered into by ESPO itself.

Any Second Framework agreement will be a purely commercial agreement and will, for the avoidance of doubt, not be governed by the Procurement Act 2023 or other public procurement legislation. ESPO Trading Limited may enter into the second framework agreement with the successful supplier and make it available to third sector clients who themselves are not required to follow the Procurement Act 2023 or other public procurement legislation. Accordingly, this is provided for tenderers information only.

Award method when using the framework

With competition

Contracting authorities that may use the framework

As a Centralised procurement authority as defined in the Procurement Act 2023, the Framework is open for use by Public Bodies (defined at <https://www.espo.org/amfile/file/download/file/9608/>) that also fall into one of the following classifications of user throughout all administrative regions of the UK: Local Authorities; Educational Establishments (including Academies); Central Government Departments and Agencies; Police, Fire & Rescue and Coastguard Emergency Services; NHS and HSC Bodies, including Ambulance Services; Registered Charities; Registered Social Landlords; The Corporate Office of the House of Lords, The Corporate Officer of the House of Commons; or any public body established by or under the Scotland Act 1998 or any Act of the Scottish Parliament. Details on general classification of end user establishments and geographical areas are available at: <https://www.espo.org/legal>.

Contracting authority location restrictions

- UK - United Kingdom

Participation

Legal and financial capacity conditions of participation

Lot 1. Adult Stock

Lot 2. Children's Stock

Refer to the tender documents for conditions of participation (note: the Procurement Specific Questionnaire including Conditions of Participation questions, is captured as a Question set in the eProcurement Portal, ProContract, and is completed online there once a response has been started).

Technical ability conditions of participation

Lot 1. Adult Stock

Lot 2. Children's Stock

Refer to the tender documents for conditions of participation (note: the Procurement Specific Questionnaire including Conditions of Participation questions, is captured as a Question set in the eProcurement Portal, ProContract, and is completed online there once a response has been started).

Particular suitability

Lot 1. Adult Stock

Lot 2. Children's Stock

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

7 January 2026, 5:00pm

Tender submission deadline

19 January 2026, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

Refer to all instructions captured via <https://www.eastmidstenders.org/>.

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

27 February 2026

Award criteria

Name	Type	Weighting
Non-Price	Quality	70%
Price	Price	30%

Other information**Applicable trade agreements**

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Documents

Associated tender documents

<https://www.eastmidtenders.org/>

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Technical specifications to be met

<https://www.eastmidtenders.org/>

Please refer to the tender documents (see above for further details including summary instructions on how to access these).

Contracting authority

Leicestershire County Council, trading as ESPO

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PYDD-1122-TCVN

Barnsdale Way, Grove Park, Enderby

Leicester

LE19 1ES

United Kingdom

Contact name: Food, Communities and Technology Procurement Team

Email: tenders@espo.org

Website: <https://www.espo.org/>

Region: UKF22 - Leicestershire CC and Rutland

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government