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Contract

## **Independent Scrutineer of Northumberland Children and Adults Safeguarding Partnership (NCASP)**

Northumberland County Council

UK7: Contract details notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-084165

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0566c7 ([view related notices](#))

Published 18 December 2025, 9:48am

### **Scope**

### **Reference**

NCC1659

### **Description**

Northumberland County Council would like to commission a provider to undertake the role of Independent Scrutineer of the Northumberland Children and Adults Safeguarding Partnership (NCASP). This is a mandatory role. This provider must be able to provide independent scrutiny and rigorous constructive challenge to support the Statutory Safeguarding Partners and Relevant Agencies to fulfil their responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults with needs for care and support. The role includes providing assurance regarding the effectiveness of local multi-agency arrangements in Northumberland with a particular focus on practice and supporting inclusion of the voice of children and adults in decision making and assurance. The NCASP Executive group, Business groups and subgroups meet at quarterly schedules, and the Independent Scrutineer will be required to provide scrutiny and challenge across the Partnership, hold partners to account, and have an independent

view of effectiveness of both children and adults safeguarding arrangements.

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## **Contract 1. INDEPENDENT SCRUTINEER OF NORTHUMBERLAND CHILDREN AND ADULTS SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP**

### **Supplier**

- Better Together Safeguarding Services

### **Contract value**

- £60,000 excluding VAT
- £72,000 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

### **Date signed**

29 October 2025

### **Contract dates**

- 1 November 2025 to 31 October 2027
- Possible extension to 31 October 2029

- 4 years

Description of possible extension:

Maximum period of 1 year and a minimum period of 30 days, by giving to the Supplier no less than 30 days' written notice prior to the contract end date. Two 12 month extension periods available.

## **Main procurement category**

Services

## **CPV classifications**

- 75120000 - Administrative services of agencies
- 85000000 - Health and social work services

## **Contract locations**

- UKC21 - Northumberland

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## **Procedure**

### **Procedure type**

Below threshold - open competition

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## **Supplier**

### **Better Together Safeguarding Services**

2 Villa View

Gateshead

NE9 5SR

United Kingdom

Email: [susankirkleymerrick@gmail.com](mailto:susankirkleymerrick@gmail.com)

Region: UKC22 - Tyneside

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. INDEPENDENT SCRUTINEER OF NORTHUMBERLAND CHILDREN AND ADULTS SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP

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## **Contracting authority**

### **Northumberland County Council**

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PJJX-1133-JRGV

County Hall

Morpeth

NE61 2EF

United Kingdom

Contact name: Rosie Cross

Email: [rosie.cross@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:rosie.cross@northumberland.gov.uk)

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

Region: UKC21 - Northumberland

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government