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Tender

## **SS15 96 DPS - Supported Local Bus (including Kent Karrier) and Home to School Transport Services**

Kent County Council

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-084180

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-05f8a5

Published 18 December 2025, 10:05am

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Kent County Council

Kent County Council | Sessions House, Maidstone

Maidstone

ME14 1XQ

#### **Email**

[Compliance.publictransport@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Compliance.publictransport@kent.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 3000414141

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKJ4 - Kent

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk)

**I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://www.kentbusinessportal.org.uk/tenders/UK-Maidstone:-Road-transport-services./H36G4TQK44>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://www.kentbusinessportal.org.uk/respond/H36G4TQK44>

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Regional or local authority

**I.5) Main activity**

General public services

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

SS15 96 DPS - Supported Local Bus (including Kent Karrier) and Home to School Transport Services

Reference number

SS15 96

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 60100000 - Road transport services

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

Kent County Council (the Council) is the largest county council in England covering an area of 3,500 square kilometres. It has an annual expenditure of over £1.6bn on goods and services and a population of 1.8m. The Council provides a wide range of personal and strategic services on behalf of its residents, operating in partnership with 12 district councils and over 300 parish/town councils.

This requirement is from the Growth, Environment and Transport Directorate is for the provision of services operated using PSV or Community (Section 19 or 22) Bus Permits.

The requirements relate to the Council's activity in respect of Supported Local Bus (including Kent Karrier) and Home to School Transport Services. Supported Bus services are procured for the delivery of socially necessary bus services (including Kent Karrier), where the authority will fund the provision of a local bus service which is not commercially viable, which would therefore not otherwise run but which the authority has identified as meeting a social need i.e. rural connectivity. Home to School Transport services are procured to provide school transport for those pupils who are determined by our Education and Young People's Directorate as eligible for free home to school transport. Where the volume of pupils is sufficient to justify a larger vehicle (minibus, coach or bus) these will require provision of this transport by a Public Service Vehicle Licensed Operator who can run services either as a public bus service or as a privately hired vehicle.

Further details of the full scope and specific requirements will be provided within the

tender documentation issued under this DPS.

Further background and technical information can be found within the tender documentation.

This Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) was established in 2016, with a start date of 01 January 2017. Due to the lack of viable alternatives provided by the Procurement Act 2023 (PA23) and in line with the transition arrangements, the Council is extending the 'Supported Local Bus and Home to School Transport Services' DPS period of validity - in accordance with Regulation 28(1)(a) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 - from 31 December 2027 to 23 February 2029, to ensure continuity of service. All other terms and conditions of the DPS remain unchanged.

This Dynamic Purchasing System has a total value of £100 million, covering the period from its establishment in 2017 through to the end of its period of validity.

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £100,000,000

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 60000000 - Transport services (excl. Waste transport)

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKJ4 - Kent

Main site or place of performance

Kent

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The Council established this DPS to tender a variety of transport requirements as detailed in section II.1.4.

This notice confirms the extension of the "Supported Local Bus (including Kent Karrier)

and Home to School Transport Services" Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) period of validity, as referenced in section II.1.4.

The DPS will remain open until 23 February 2029, in accordance with Regulation 34 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. Suppliers may apply at any time during this period, provided they meet and continue to meet the Council's minimum standards as defined in the documents. Successful applicants will have equal standing with existing DPS members, and unsuccessful applicants may reapply at any time. Minimum time limits for tenders under the DPS will be specified in each individual Invitation to Tender (ITT).

Suppliers can access the 'SS15 96 DPS - Supported Local Bus (including Kent Karrier) and Home to School Transport Services Dynamic Purchasing System' by visiting the link mentioned above or the [www.kentbusinessportal.org.uk](http://www.kentbusinessportal.org.uk)

### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £100,000,000

### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Start date

17 December 2025

End date

23 February 2029

This contract is subject to renewal

No

### **II.2.9) Information about the limits on the number of candidates to be invited**

Envisaged minimum number: 1

### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

### **II.2.12) Information about electronic catalogues**

Tenders must be presented in the form of electronic catalogues or include an electronic catalogue

### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

### **II.2.14) Additional information**

To respond to this opportunity please click here:

<https://www.kentbusinessportal.org.uk/respond/H36G4TQK44>

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Restricted procedure

#### **IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system**

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with several operators

The procurement involves the setting up of a dynamic purchasing system

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

### **IV.2) Administrative information**

#### **IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

22 February 2029

#### **IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.3) Additional information**

The contracting authority considers that this contract may be suitable for economic operators that are small or medium enterprises (SMEs). However, any selection of tenderers will be based solely on the criteria set out for the procurement. The contracting authority considers this contract suitable for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

However, the selection of tenderers will be based exclusively on the criteria specified in the tender documentation.

Futher information can be found at [www.kentbusinessportal.org.uk](http://www.kentbusinessportal.org.uk) or by following the below links.

For more information about this opportunity, please visit the Delta eSourcing portal at:

<https://www.delta-esourcing.com/tenders/UK-UK-Maidstone:-Road-transport-services./H36G4TQK44>

To respond to this opportunity, please click here:

<https://www.delta-esourcing.com/respond/H36G4TQK44>

GO Reference: GO-20251218-PRO-33813175

## **VI.4) Procedures for review**

### **VI.4.1) Review body**

Kent County Council

County Hall

Madistone

ME14 1XQ

Country

United Kingdom