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Tender

Research into young people's experience of the labour market and minimum wages

Low Pay Commission

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-085145

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05faee

Published 19 December 2025, 5:04pm

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Scope

Reference

LPC 2025/03

Description

In recent years, we have recommended a number of large increases to the 16-17 Year Old and 18-20 Year Old Rates of the minimum wage. In addition, the current government has an ambition to move to a single adult minimum wage rate for all workers aged 18 and above. Our most recent remit asked the LPC to balance this ambition with the Government's concern about current levels of youth unemployment when making our recommendations on the 18-20 Year Old Rate.

Reducing the age of entitlement to the NLW to 18 would require significant increases in the wage floor for 18-20 year olds. It is therefore vital that the LPC has a robust evidence base for understanding the impact of recent increases in the youth rates of the minimum

wage as well as the potential future impacts.

The LPC carries out its own descriptive and econometric analysis of the youth labour market and the impact of minimum wage increases. However, some of the key data sources we rely on, including the Labour Force Survey, have suffered from data quality issues since the pandemic. We are therefore looking for research that would use alternative data sources and/or develop novel methods to provide robust quantitative estimates of the impact of increases in the youth rates of the minimum wage since 2020.

The full requirement is set out in Schedule 07 of the Invitation to Tender document available on the Low Pay Commission website.

We anticipate bids in the range £20,000 to £35,000 + VAT. The project will deliver final results in September 2026 (with a final report due later in 2026).

A detailed description of the project requirements is provided in the Invitation to Tender (ITT) document published on the Low Pay Commission website.

The pricing schedule template can be found alongside the ITT document.

Total value (estimated)

- £35,000 excluding VAT
- £42,000 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 2 March 2026 to 31 December 2026
- 9 months, 30 days

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services
-

Participation

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
 - Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)
-

Submission

Enquiry deadline

12 January 2026, 2:00pm

Tender submission deadline

2 February 2026, 2:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

Tenders should be submitted to tim.butcher@lowpay.gov.uk, copying lpc@lowpay.gov.uk.

Tenders may be submitted electronically

No

Award criteria

Tenders shall be evaluated using the Most Advantageous Tender (MAT) methodology. This is where the Authority assesses a Tender based on a combination of commercial, quality, and price elements. The Authority chooses to award the Contract, the Authority shall award the Contract to the Tenderer which submits the highest scoring Tender.

The MAT ratio for this Tender is as follows:

Commercial: Pass/Fail

Quality: 80%

Value for Money: 20%

Any non-weighted elements shall be evaluated as pass/fail and any Tenders which receive a 'Fail' will be excluded from further participation in the Procurement.

Quality will be assessed on three dimensions:

Understanding the requirements and context (A01): 25%

Methodology and approach (A02): 30%

Ability to deliver (A03): 25%

Value for money will be scored based on total contract price, the scale and quality of the proposed deliverables and the staffing resource required to complete the project.

Procedure

Procedure type

Below threshold - open competition

Documents

Associated tender documents

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/low-pay-commission-call-for-research-2026>

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Contracting authority

Low Pay Commission

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDDW-8983-PTPH

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United Kingdom

Contact name: Tim Butcher

Email: lpc@lowpay.gov.uk

Region: UKI42 - Tower Hamlets

Organisation type: Public authority - central government