Lancashire County Council

Preliminary Market Engagement

Reference	MH/CORP/LCC/26/607
Title	The Provision of Services for the Acceptance and Treatment of Waste Carpet
Return date	6:00pm on 06 November 2026

Preliminary Market Engagement (including Questionnaire)

Lancashire County Council (the Authority) is one of the largest Local Authorities in England and Wales and employs approximately 34,000 staff. It serves a population of 1.2 million, which is rich in cultural diversity, and covers an area of 3,070 sq. km.

Further information about Lancashire County Council is available at:
http://www.lancashire.gov.uk

The Authority is the Waste Disposal Authority for the administrative county of Lancashire and operates and manages fifteen (15) Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs), with household carpets currently being deposited by members of the public at three (3) HWRCs within that HWRC network. The Authority is exploring opportunities to increase carpet recycling and recovery across additional HWRCs in the future. Carpets are kept covered and dry once deposited at the HWRCs and are to be delivered direct into a Provider Facility.

The Authority currently manages approximately over 1,000 tonnes per annum of waste carpet; and is seeking expressions of interest from organisations in the waste management sector that may be interested in providing waste carpet treatment via recycling and/or recovery solutions, and in ensuring that disposal is avoided. The Authority is particularly interested in collating feedback from the market as to how the services may be delivered in future.

The tender procedure, the form of contract, and the project timetable

The tender procedure is anticipated to be an Open above-threshold services procurement, although a Competitive Flexible Procedure may be utilised. The evaluation weightings are anticipated to include a mixture of quality / technical, social value and price considerations. The Authority will draft suitable contract terms.

The tender will likely be advertised in January 2027. Ideally, the Authority will award the tender no later than March 2027. Services are anticipated to commence from June 2027. The Authority is currently considering any flexibility to this and will confirm the timelines in the tender procedure.

Questions & Topics – requiring your response:

Please share your responses to the questions posed in the Questionnaire within this document.

Contact and return:

Please respond to the questionnaire no later than 6:00pm on 06 November 2026.

Completed questionnaires must be returned electronically to the Authority's procurement team via email at: contractscorporate@lancashire.gov.uk

The Authority is not obligated to review any late responses to this market engagement.

Important Notes

This preliminary market engagement exercise does not constitute a formal tender or pre-qualification process. It is issued for the sole purpose of market engagement and information gathering to help shape the final procurement approach.

Participation in this preliminary market engagement exercise is not mandatory and will not affect eligibility to participate in the formal procurement process once launched.

Responses to the preliminary market engagement exercise will not be scored but will be reviewed by the Authority to understand market appetite, delivery capability, and preferences regarding contract terms and risk allocation.

Submission of a response to this preliminary market engagement exercise does not constitute a contractual offer and shall not be construed as creating any obligation on the part of the Authority to proceed with a formal procurement or to award any contract.

The Authority reserves the right to:

- Make changes to the scope or timing of the procurement process.
- Hold informal engagement discussions with respondents to this preliminary market engagement exercise to clarify responses where required.
- Proceed or not proceed with the procurement process at its absolute discretion.

All information shared in responses will be treated in confidence and used only for the purposes of refining the procurement strategy. All information issued by and provided to the Authority should and will be treated as confidential and used only for internal purposes relating to project planning and procurement preparation.

Questionnaires returned to Lancashire County Council will only be retained for the duration of the procurement process and any contracts awarded through that procurement.

Local Government Reorganisation

The Government has announced its ambition to dissolve Lancashire's existing councils and create new unitary councils to deliver all services through single authorities. More information is available on the Authority's website:
Local government reorganisation - Lancashire County Council.

Questionnaire

Providers are invited to enter responses to all or any of the following questions relating to the acceptance and treatment (recycling or recovery) of waste carpet arising from Lancashire County Council Household Waste Recycling Centres. If you require the Questionnaire in another format, please email contractscorporate@lancashire.gov.uk.

No.	Question	Response
1	Company name	
2	Contact details for queries about this engagement exercise. Please provide an email address and telephone number.	
3	Please indicate if you are happy for the Authority to contact you about the responses provided?	Yes ☐ No ☐ [please select as appropriate]
4	Briefly describe your organisation's involvement in, and experience of the recycling or recovery of waste carpet.	

No.	Question	Response
5	Please provide details of your facility or facilities that would receive waste carpet, including location and permitted annual capacity.	
6	What are the approximate maximum and minimum volumes of waste carpet tonnage you would be looking to secure to make it worth your while to tender for the contract?	
7	How would continuity of service be maintained throughout periods of market fluctuation or operational disruption?	

No.	Question	Response
8	Please describe the likely treatment routes for waste carpet accepted into your facility(ies) and provide an indication of whether waste carpets will be either recycled, recovered or disposed.	
9	Are there any quality requirements, storage arrangements or contamination controls you would expect of the Authority prior to you accepting the waste carpet? Please identify any excluded materials or contaminants that you deem should be excluded from the specification.	

No.	Question	Response
10	The proposal would be to deliver waste carpet to the provider during Monday to Friday and on Saturday morning. Are there any planning or operational restrictions applying to your facility(ies) that would cause difficulties in operating during these times?	
11	Please advise what pricing mechanism you would recommend, e.g. fixed gate fee, gate fee linked to indexed pricing etc., and explain the reasons for your preference.	

No.	Question	Response
12	Are there any specific issues or factors that would influence your organisation's decision to tender for a contract to deliver these services to Lancashire County Council? Please indicate any other contractual, operational or market considerations that you think the Authority should consider for this procurement.	