

## Waivers granted under Non-Emergency Procedures (Up to £100k)

**ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

Goods, services, works	Value	Period covered	Supplier	Justification
Emergency care package	£91,778	18 February 2025 to 14 April 2025	Fidelis Healthcare	Urgent replacement of a care provider to deliver a complex package of care. Providers on existing frameworks were unable to meet the client's needs.
Emergency care package	£87,578	18 February 2025 to 2 April 2025	Fidelis Healthcare	Urgent replacement of a care provider to deliver a complex package of care. Providers on existing frameworks were unable to meet the client's needs.
Development and delivery of a 1-5 year Adult Social Care place based Workforce strategy for Halton	£72,000	3 February 2025 to 31 July 2025	Skills For Health	The Council does not have in-house specialists in the field of workforce planning. Skills for Health submitted a comprehensive proposal detailing the scope of work to be delivered, at a cost considered proportionate to the services required. A comparative quotation was also obtained, which was higher in cost.
Ongoing procurement of digital alarm units to support the Telehealthcare Team in the switch from analogue to digital	£60,000	One year contract to 19 April 2025	Careium UK Ltd.	Sole supplier of required digital alarm units
Ongoing supply and maintenance of equipment used by the Care Home Division	£60,000	One year contract to 30 June 2025	Newlyn Healthcare Ltd.	The existing supplier had consistently delivered a prompt, reliable, and high-quality service for the supply and maintenance of beds and equipment in the Council's care homes. Extending the contract ensured continuity of service, avoided disruption to vulnerable service users, and helped maintains standards of care.
Consultancy to advise on future proofing residential nursing care services within the borough (funded from the Pooled Budget)	£59,910	One year contract to 31 August 2025	This is Capacity CIC	The supplier was selected based on their previous involvement in care home development projects, which provided valuable continuity and familiarity with the Council's requirements.
Nurse call system for Oakmeadow	£36,000	One off procurement	Legrand Care	System urgently required to future proof service delivery at Oakmeadow.

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Eclipse Person Matching (EPM - a module that works alongside the Eclipse Case Management solution for Adults and has the facility to design externally hosted web-forms)	£34,500	One off procurement	OLM Systems Ltd.	EPM is an additional module that works with the Eclipse Case Management solution. It can only be purchased from the system provider.
Transport for a client with severe learning disabilities who cannot be supported by the Council's existing transport contracts	£27,550	One year contract to 31 August 2025	Apec Group	Existing contracted transport providers are unable to meet the specific requirements of the client
Weekend working from Eclipse system provider to facilitate system implementation in Adult Social Care	£22,000	One off procurement	OLM Systems Ltd.	One-off purchase for weekend working for the supplier to support with the implementation of Eclipse for Adults. Can only be purchased from the system provider.  NB – waiver not strictly necessary as expenditure is less than £25k.

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## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DIRECTORATE

Goods, services, works	Value	Period covered	Supplier	Justification
Occupational Health Service	£90,000	One year to 31 March 2025	Mersey Care NHS Foundation	Existing supplier - new agreement for continuation of current service pending options appraisal
Consultancy review of Day Service and Supported Living provision for services for Adults with Learning Disabilities, as part of the Transformation of Adult Services programme	£68,400	One off procurement	Institute of Public Care	One-off award to the Institute of Public Care connected to the Transformation of Adult Services programme.
Agency appointments - Childcare Locums x 2	£61,134	Three months to 30 September 2024	Oyster Partnership Ltd.	Oyster Partnership was the only provider at the time able to source the required Locums. Extension of existing waiver
Subscription renewal for Palo Alto Firewalls	£32,268	One year contract to January 2026	Desk Top Publishing Micro Systems Ltd. t/a DTP Group	This is an essential subscription renewal required to maintain the functionality of the Council's Palo Alto network equipment. The renewal is with the original supplier, who was procured via an approved framework.
Agency appointment - Childcare Locum	£27,898	Three months to 31 December 2024	Oyster Partnership Ltd.	Oyster Partnership was the only provider at the time that was able to source the required Locum. Further extension of existing waiver
Renewal of Ivanti Neurons Cloud Licensing - Ivanti Neurons is a cloud technology platform providing a foundational set of platform services that improve visibility, security and scale across IT and security operations	£27,000 per year	Three-year contract to March 2028	Phoenix Software Ltd.	Renewal of licensing for product previously sourced via a framework agreement
Placement of advertising across multiple media titles	£25,000	One year contract to 31 March 2025	People Scout Ltd.	The award was made to a previously contracted supplier, offering the same or better rates than going direct to individual publications. Using a single supplier also improves efficiency and provides added value through their market insight and advice on the most effective publication choices.

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Digital targeted advert optimisation across a variety of platforms including Google and Facebook. Linked to recruitment in Children's Services.	£20,000	One year contract to September 2025	Newsquest Media Group	<p>The supplier provides social media, i.e. ensuring that as many relevant members of our target audience groups see the Council's adverts - in this case recruitment adverts.</p> <p>As a national media company, the supplier brings an extensive knowledge of algorithms and the tools to build an effected targeted campaign.</p> <p>NB – waiver not strictly necessary as expenditure is less than £25k.</p>
Kemp Load Balancers to connect the Council's on-premises Data Centre to Microsoft 365	£11,000 per year	Three year contract to July 2027	Phoenix Software Ltd.	The supplier is the Council's Microsoft partner and provider.
SchoolComms Messaging subscription for schools	£6,654	One year subscription to 31 March 2025	ParentPay Ltd.	<p>One-off award to the Institute of Public Care connected to the Transformation of Adult Services programme.</p> <p>NB – waiver not strictly necessary as expenditure is less than £25k.</p>

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## CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Goods, services, works	Value	Period covered	Supplier	Justification
Consultancy services to deliver Halton Project Phase 2 in partnership with Sci-Tech Daresbury - Project involves the delivery of coding clubs and engagement activities to primary and secondary schools	£100,000	One year to 31 December 2025	Gina Czarnecki	The individual currently delivering the first phase of the project has played a key role in designing and implementing the programme to date. Her in-depth knowledge and involvement place her in a unique position to deliver the second phase efficiently and effectively.
Saturday Play Clubs for Disabled Children	£93,500	One year contract to 31 March 2026	Halton Play Council Ltd.	A soft market test issued in September 2024 to identify other providers of weekend play clubs for disabled children was not successful.  Continuing the play offer with the current provider for one year therefore maintains a service that is valued by parents and carers, that is enjoyed by children that attend and supports the development of play and independence skills.
Training to contribute to the Practice Model for Children's social care	£81,420	Six month contract to 1 October 2025	Alasdair Cant & Associates Ltd.	Appointment of a training facilitator who has delivered the same package of training to other local authorities who have successfully embedded the learning into their practice model.
Annual membership of NCER CiC, including access to Nexus data systems and access for schools purchasing data support SLA	£80,000	One year contract to 31 March 2026	NCER CIC	Award to sole supplier providing national, regional, and local authority level educational performance tracking and analysis. The cost of the subscription is recharged to schools through an SLA.
Statutory Independent Advocacy and Visitor Service	£70,000	One year contract to 31 March 2026	National Youth Advocacy Service	The provider has consistently met performance targets and delivered a high-quality service over the past five years. The waiver also allows time to review and explore alternative options from April 2026.

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Short Breaks Friendship Groups for children aged 12 to 18	£49,500	One year contract to 31 March 2026	Vibe UK	<p>The planned autumn 2024 procurement was postponed due to budget authorisation delays and ongoing discussions about establishing a 0–25 Disabled Children's Service in 2025, following development needs identified in the 2024 Children's Services inspection.</p> <p>Maintaining the Friendship Group service for one year provides continuity of service, enabling disabled children and young people with a short breaks plan with the opportunity to participate in interesting and safe activities. It also provides a break from caring for their parents preventing possible escalation to higher cost services.</p>
Secondment of a member of staff from Mersey Care NHS Foundation into the Family Hub Workforce for 12 months to provide psychology support	£43,352	One year contract to 31 March 2025	Mersey Care NHS Foundation	Due to the DFE funding timescales, it was not possible to seek quotations. Furthermore, the Council is already contracted with Mersey Care NHS Foundation for a number of health related activities and they use the same standard operating procedures.
Service Delivery Manager for Dads and Non-Birthing Parents (0.5FTE)	£40,000	One year contract to 3 June 2025	The National Childbirth Trust	<p>The provider has been working closely with Halton Family Hubs to support parents' emotional health and wellbeing and as a result of the increased focus in supporting fathers.</p> <p>The provider is already commissioned by the ICB and this is an extension of their current contract with them.</p>
Speech and Language Provider	£35,000	1 December 2024 to 18 July 2025	CommuniKate	Additional resource urgently required around completion of Education, Health and Care Plans in order to meet statutory requirements. The contract provides an agreed price schedule depending on interventions agreed.
Speech and Language Provider	£35,000	1 December 2024 to 18 July 2025	Pinch of Salt	As above

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Speech and Language Provider	£35,000	1 December 2024 to 18 July 2025	Lifelong Language	As above
Speech and Language Provider	£35,000	1 December 2024 to 18 July 2025	Talking Toolbox	As above
Speech and Language Provider	£35,000	1 December 2024 to 18 July 2025	SpeechWise	As above
Support to assist families to recruit a personal assistant (PA) for children assessed as requiring PA support	£32,500	One year contract to 31 March 2026	Positive Future Consultancy	When the PA Recruitment service was first tendered for in 2022, there was only one provider that tendered to deliver the service.  Charges have not been increased, and the provider has developed a strong working relationship with both the Direct Payments Team and Short Breaks Team.
Halton Family Hubs appointment of a Peer Support Coordinator for one year to be based within Warrington and Halton Hospital	£29,938	One year contract to 31 December 2025	Warrington and Halton NHS Trust	The Infant Feeding Service has a similar agreement in place with Whiston Hospital. To ensure parity across the area for Halton Families, the Council has entered into an agreement with Warrington and Halton Hospital using the Family Hub funding to test the effectiveness for 12 months.  The service is to be provided by Warrington and Halton NHS Trust.
Development of a SEND Local Offer portal to integrate into the Family Hub Digital Solution	£18,000 per year	Three year contract to 30 September 2027	Beebot AI Ltd.	The supplier already provides the Council's family hub digital solution. Based on its success, it was agreed at Management Team that the supplier be engaged to provide the SEND local offer portal too.
AI App for care leavers	£18,000 per year	Two year contract to 8 January 2027	Beebot AI Ltd.	The provider has previously completed a very successful similar piece of work with the Council's Family Hubs and was considered best placed to develop an App for care leavers.

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Goods, services, works	Value	Period covered	Supplier	Justification
Additional module for Synergy system to capture activity around a change in legislation to manage two year old funding applications for nursery settings	£16,110	One off procurement	Access UK Ltd.	Can only be purchased from system provider NB – waiver not strictly necessary as expenditure is less than £25k.
Procurement of safety equipment to prevent accidents within the home, e.g. fire guards, safety gates etc.	£16,000 per year	Five year contract to 31 March 2030	KidRapt Ltd.	The supplier's long-standing relationship with the Council has enabled the provision of equipment at discounted rates. Additionally, using a single supplier offers better value overall, with reduced delivery costs on bulk purchases.

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## ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION

Goods, services, works	Value	Period covered	Supplier	Justification
Supply & installation of an indoor play structure	£99,999	One off procurement	Play Revolution Ltd.	Liaison with other local authorities, including St Helens and Wirral, confirmed that the selected provider offers best value and reliable long-term aftercare.
Repair and upgrading of Halton Lea public lift	£96,055	One off procurement	Concept Elevators	A waiver was obtained due to the urgent nature of the situation, as the lift was out of service. To ensure value for money, five quotes were obtained as part of the procurement process.
Agency engineer - Structures	£95,000	One year to 31 March 2026	Waterman Aspen Ltd.	Connect2Halton was unable to fulfil request for a structures engineer
Architecture Design services for RIBA Stages 2 - 7 for the redevelopment of Elite House into an Enterprise Facility	£91,500	Two year contract to 31 October 2026	Atelier 2 Architecture Ltd.	Appointing a designer already familiar with the operator's requirements will streamline communication and minimise the risk of delays or misunderstandings. Also, as the project is funded by the Town Deal, timely delivery by 2026 is essential.
Migration and implementation of multiple service areas (Waste, Grounds, Street Cleansing and Cemeteries) into existing Alloy database	£90,000	One year contract to April 2025	Causeway Technologies Ltd.	Specialist IT work that can only be undertaken by the system provider
Agency surveyor - Valuations	£75,545	Nine months to 31 March 2025	Vivid	An agency appointment was necessary due to difficulties recruiting permanent staff to vacant posts. The appointment was made following a competitive exercise which confirmed that the supplier offered a competitive rate.
Agency surveyor - Estate management	£70,300	Nine months to 31 March 2025	Park Avenue	An agency appointment was necessary due to difficulties recruiting permanent staff to vacant posts. The appointment was made following a competitive exercise which confirmed that the supplier offered a competitive rate.

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Goods, services, works	Value	Period covered	Supplier	Justification
Skip hire at various locations including Picow Farm Road Depot and Cemeteries	£60,000	4 October 2024 to 30 June 2025	GSH Waste Recycling Ltd.	Expansion of the current skip provision to additional teams within Environment Services
Additional licences and storage for the Alloy asset management system used by Environment Services	£55,650	One off procurement	Causeway Technologies Ltd.	IT licences and system storage that can only be purchased from the system provider
Agency surveyor - Estate management and property advice	£54,000	Six months to 31 March 2025	Vivid	An agency appointment was necessary due to difficulties recruiting permanent staff to vacant posts. The appointment was made following a competitive exercise which confirmed the supplier offered a competitive rate.
Agency surveyor - Estate management and property advice	£51,000	Six months to 30 September 2025	Vivid	Extension of existing agency appointment
Transport for a pupil with complex SEND to travel from Widnes to a school in Southport	£47,120	Eleven months to 31 July 2025	Halton Transport Community	The service was originally tendered but no quotes were received. The selected supplier was therefore approached as they already provide other transport services for the Council under the Passenger Transport Dynamic Purchasing System.
Mayrise Licence and Software	£45,000 per year	Two years to 21 May 2026	Causeway Technologies Ltd.	Legacy System which requires ongoing annual support and maintenance. Can only be purchased from the system provider.
Extension of agency support for delivery of UK SPF projects with funding finishing in March 2025	£45,000	Three months to 31 March 2025	Vivid	Extension of existing agency appointment. Required due to delays in resolving the current UKSPF project issues and the resignation of the officer managing the business related UKSPF.
Supply of 150 galvanised steel litter bins	£45,000	One off procurement	Wybone Ltd.	This contractor has supplied litter bins to the Council for several years, ensuring consistency in design and quality across the borough. Their products are reliable, and Council staff are trained in their installation, supporting efficient fitting and maintenance. 2020 price levels have also been maintained.

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CDM - Principal Designer Services under the Construction Design & Management Regulations 2015	£37,500 per year	Two years to 31 December 2026	Keelagher Okey Klein Associates Ltd.	Direct award made to the Council's current provider, previously engaged through the NHS framework. The provider has agreed to maintain their existing rates and the framework terms and conditions despite no longer being listed on the framework.
Town Centre Business Support Consultancy	£37,000	One off procurement	Mark Butchard Business Solutions Ltd.	Direct award made to a reputable supplier known to the Council due to urgency.
Support to allow delivery of UKSPF projects to be completed by March 2025	£35,000	Six months to 28 February 2025	Vivid	An agency appointment was necessary due to difficulties recruiting permanent staff to vacant posts.
Mayrise - Highways management software	£30,000	One year to 31 May 2025	Causeway Technologies Ltd.	Annual licensing costs to allow continued use of the Causeway Technologies Ltd. Mayrise software used by the highways department. Can only be purchased from the system provider.
Delivering cycling proficiency to all year 5&6 pupils plus level 1 and 'Learn to Ride' for years 3+	£29,400 per year	Three years to 31 March 2028	The Cycle Partnership	Contract awarded to the existing supplier, who has built strong working relationships with local schools over a six-year period. The cost is a fixed standard charge set by the supplier and is fully grant funded by the Department for Transport, making this a practical and cost-neutral solution.
Delivery of destination marketing communications campaign for Halton - social media, website work, design of promotional materials	£24,500	One off procurement	Vivid	An agency appointment was necessary due to the specialist nature of the work.  NB – waiver not strictly necessary as expenditure is less than £25k.
Swimming equipment and supplies for resale and the Active Halton Swim Lesson programme	£24,000	One off procurement	Mares SpA	Sole supplier of the swimming caps required by the service.  NB – waiver not strictly necessary as expenditure is less than £25k.

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Goods, services, works	Value	Period covered	Supplier	Justification
Targeted social media campaigns to promote the support available from the Business Investment & Growth Team and support in recruiting a business support professional to develop a series of online business masterclasses.	£24,000	One off procurement	Vivid	An agency appointment was necessary due to the specialist nature of the work.  NB – waiver not strictly necessary as expenditure is less than £25k.
Widnes Town Centre Regeneration - Public Consultation	£20,000	One off procurement	Placed	The supplier was already undertaking a similar exercise in Runcorn Old Town and Liverpool City Region, and know the borough well.  The price quoted is similar to the previous work that was accepted for the Runcorn Old Town project.  NB – waiver not strictly necessary as expenditure is less than £25k.
Supply and delivery of pantomime set, portal systems, cloths & furniture for The Brindley's Annual Pantomime Season	£20,000	1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026	New Pantomime Productions Limited	Direct award made due to the bespoke design created specifically for this year's seasonal pantomime at The Brindley.  NB – waiver not strictly necessary as expenditure is less than £25k.
National Highways and Transportation (NHT) Public Satisfaction Survey	£20,000 per year	Two years to 31 March 2026	Measure2 Improve (Building Software Ltd.)	Participation in the National Highways and Transportation (NHT) Survey in 2024 and 2025. No choice over supplier as the process is managed by a private organisation on behalf of local highway authorities in the UK
Traffic Management Software	£20,000 per year	Three years to 31 January 2028	Causeway Technologies Ltd. Technologies Ltd	Licences for legacy transport management system that can only be purchased from the system provider.

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Goods, services, works	Value	Period covered	Supplier	Justification
Provision of a parking and active travel and movement study to inform the wider Widnes Town Centre Redevelopment Framework	£19,250	One off procurement	WSP UK Ltd.	The provider has previously delivered similar projects in Halton and brings valuable local knowledge. There are also time constraints linked to external funding applications, and the results from the study will support the timely submission of bids. The provider confirmed that they have the capacity to complete the work within the required timeframe.  NB – waiver not strictly necessary as expenditure is less than £25k.
To provide servicing / repairs for all exercise equipment at the new Halton Leisure Centre	£16,000 per year	Five year contract from January 2025	Technogym Ltd.	Servicing and repairs to be carried out by the same supplier that originally provided the equipment, in line with the manufacturer's recommendation.
Purchase of 50 x Microsoft Office licences for the public PCs in Halton Library service - one purchase will provide 5 years of licence cover	£15,447	One off procurement covering a five-year period to January 2030	Phoenix Software Ltd.	Purchased from the Council's contracted Microsoft partner, which supplies licensing at a discounted rate  NB – waiver not strictly required due to expenditure being less than £25k
Supply of outdoor marquee to be used at various events around the borough	£13,000	One off procurement	Gala Tent Ltd.	Specialist market but three quotes were obtained and the contract was awarded to supplier with the lowest price.  NB – waiver not strictly required due to expenditure being less than £25k
Provision of un-metered electricity supply administration between HBC and electricity supplier	£12,000	One-off procurement	Power Data Associates	The supplier is the market leader in this provision and provide this service for a relatively small fee.  NB – waiver not strictly required due to expenditure being less than £25k
Development of an App to promote and provide easy access to the Council's leisure facilities	£11,000 per year	Three year contract to February 2028	Innovatise Ltd. T/A Innovative GMBL	The service provider has a history of working with the Council and has consistently delivered good performance and value for money.

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Agency appointment - Specialist input to promote the Reconnecting Runcorn programme	£10,000	One off procurement	Vivid	<p>The Council was unable to appoint a permanent staff member to this role. Given the Government's requirement to actively promote the funding and associated projects, an agency appointment was necessary to ensure timely delivery of these obligations.</p> <p>NB – waiver not strictly required due to expenditure being less than £25k</p>
Supply of Christmas lights for Widnes and Runcorn town centres	£8,565	One off procurement	Festive Lighting	<p>Festive Lighting was originally appointed following a competitive procurement process, during which they submitted a significantly lower bid than their competitors. They have since offered a discounted rate for an additional year, which continues to represent good value for money, supporting the justification for a direct contract award.</p> <p>NB – waiver not strictly required due to expenditure being less than £25k</p>
Monthly gully and interceptor cleaning at Lower House Lane	£7,200 per year	Four years to 4 December 2028	A & D Drainage Services Ltd.	Continuation of service with existing supplier who has performed satisfactorily at an acceptable cost. Previous attempts to tender the service have not been successful.
Keylines – Subscription for software licences	£3,280	One year to 28 February 2026	Transoft Solutions	<p>Additional licences for professional software for design works that can only be purchased from the system provider.</p> <p>NB – waiver not strictly required due to expenditure being less than £25k</p>

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## PUBLIC HEALTH

Goods, services, works	Value	Period covered	Supplier	Justification
Pharmacy Contract 2024/25	£90,000	One year to 31 March 2025	Various	Local pharmacies are the only organisations that can provide these services for Public Health
NHS Health Check medical supplies	£45,000 per year	Two years to 31 March 2026	BHR Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	The supplier offers consumable and non-consumable products at prices lower than those available through the NHS supply chain. In addition, the supplier provides added value through an ongoing staff training package and maintenance and repair service for devices currently in use by the Council.
Think Well Spend Well – Provision of support those suffering from, or at risk of, poor mental health to maximise and better manage their household income	£18,000	One year to 31 March 2025	Halton Citizens Advice Bureau	Continuation of service with local provider. The service is monitored on a regular basis to ensure service delivery provides value for money.  NB – waiver not strictly required due to expenditure being less than £25k
Non-Clinical Cancer Services – Provision of a tailored advice, information, and emotional support service to individuals living with and beyond cancer, as well as their carers and families. This includes counselling, a telephone listening service, and signposting or referrals to relevant local agencies such as welfare and benefits support.	£13,000	One year to 31 March 2025	Halton Cancer Support Group	Continuation of service with local provider. The service is monitored on a regular basis to ensure service delivery provides value for money.  NB – waiver not strictly required due to expenditure being less than £25k
Provision of an Integrated Monitoring System incorporating Enhanced Monitoring of Drug Related Deaths within Halton	£9,240	One year to 31 March 2025	Liverpool John Moores University	Specialist service – continuation with existing service provider  NB – waiver not strictly required due to expenditure being less than £25k