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Award

Working Well Expansion Programme

Trafford Council

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-002339

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-030fbc

Published 26 January 2022, 4:22pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Trafford Council

4th Floor, Waterside House, Waterside Plaza

Sale

M33 7ZF

Contact

Mr James Hunter

Email

james.hunter@star-procurement.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 1619121616

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.trafford.gov.uk/>

Buyer's address

<http://www.trafford.gov.uk/>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Regional or local authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Working Well Expansion Programme

Reference number

DN62837

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79611000 - Job search services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The expansion of Working Well is a central pillar of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority's (GMCA) devolution agreement with Central Government.

The ambition of the devolution agreement is to achieve better outcomes for residents by securing significant influence, and ultimately control, over public spending in Greater Manchester (GM). The agreement was made on the condition that the GMCA will adopt a mayoral model of governance. The benefits of the agreement cover a range of thematic areas including investment funds; transport; business support; housing; and planning.

The specific elements of the devolution agreement that are relevant to this tender exercise are:-

- a) An expanded Working Well programme, ultimately supporting 50,000 people to progress towards employment. Building on the existing programme, Working Well will provide participants with integrated, intensive support.
- b) A co-commissioned Work Programme. GM will commission, jointly with DWP, Work Programme provision that draws on and complements Working Well expansion, a reformed post 19 skills landscape and broader employment and skills reform.
- c) A reshaped FE post 19 skills system. GM will incentivise skills providers to focus on meeting the needs of defined GM priority groups, ensuring the right support is in place to move people on to employment or to continue in education.

d) A reformed approach to delivering the AGE Grant. Ensuring the use of the grant is aligned with broader support for GM residents and the priority growth sectors across GM.

e) Alignment of Skills Capital. Ensuring GM has the infrastructure that supports the delivery of a reformed employment and skills landscape.

In addition to supporting residents into employment, Working Well Expansion will support those in low paid or insecure employment to progress to higher skilled and higher paid jobs. Greater Manchester has low levels of productivity compared with London, and a key outcome of Working Well is to increase productivity levels and reduce dependency of those in work who continue to rely on benefits such as Working Tax Credits.

The Working Well Expansion will consist of three separate elements: personalised support (which this tender pertains to); the Mental Health Therapeutic Interventions tender; and the Skills for Employment tender. It is envisaged that these elements will begin delivery at the same time and they will work together and integrate with other local services, to provide a holistic approach to moving people into sustainable employment. The personalised support is the linchpin of the Working Well Expansion programme and all clients will be supported through this service.

Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council is acting as the procurer on behalf of the GMCA to appoint a provider/s. The programme will be delivered across all ten Local Authority areas of GM:

Bolton

Bury

Manchester

Oldham

Rochdale

Salford

Stockport

Tameside

Trafford

Wigan

The contract will be awarded based on two areas (or 'lots') which are as follows:

Lot One: Manchester, Salford, Trafford

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Lowest offer: £10,700,000 / Highest offer: £10,700,000 taken into consideration

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Working Well Expansion - Manchester Growth Hub

Lot No

1

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 80000000 - Education and training services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKD3 - Greater Manchester

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

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Salford

Stockport

Tameside

Trafford

Wigan

The contract will be awarded based on two areas (or 'lots') which are as follows:

Lot One: Manchester, Salford, Trafford

Lot Two: Bolton, Bury, Oldham, Rochdale, Stockport, Tameside, Wigan

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

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) Description

II.2.1) Title

Lot No

2

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 800000000 - Education and training services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKD3 - Greater Manchester

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

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The contract for the WWE started in March 2016 and was due to complete in 2020. There are two providers, Ingeus and the Work Company (part of MGC) covering separate local authority areas. The provision is funded by DWP and the ESF and the original contract was expected to attach 10,500 clients to the programme. This figure has not been realised which has resulted in an under-spend that can be carried forward to expand the referral period.

Trafford Council on behalf of the GMCA has secured ESF funding to support referrals onto the Working Well Expansion Programme for up to an additional nine months (1st April 2017 - 31st December 2017). ESF funding increases the maximum value of contracted provision for the programme from £10.7m to £14.8m. The will result in the Providers contract term being extended for an additional nine months.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: Yes

Identification of the project

ESF

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

The Working Well Expansion programme is a GM wide provision to support the long term unemployed into sustainable work.

The contract for the WWE started in March 2016 and was due to complete in 2020. There are two providers, Ingeus and the Work Company (part of MGC) covering separate local authority areas. The provision is funded by DWP and the ESF and the original contract was expected to attach 10,500 clients to the programme. This figure has not been realised which has resulted in an under-spend that can be carried forward to expand the referral period.

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In addition to the under-spend the WW Programme Office has also been successful in securing ESF to further increase the funding available the WWE (including the extension) will now be able to support 13,500 attachments to the programme.

Due to the nature of the services provided and the current contract still achieving value for money and continuing to measure social value, it is in the Local Authorities best interest to extend the current agreement mentioned in the contract for the agreed 12 month extension for referral support to ensure there is no disruption in referral and employment support for those in the Greater Manchester area. A change in provider at this time would increase costs substantially to mobilise and transfer a service for a 12 month period. This would also result in a delay in referrals from DWP.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

1

Lot No

2

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

1 April 2020

V.2.2) Information about tenders

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

Manchester Growth Hub

90 Great Bridgewater St,

Manchester

M1 5JW

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKD3 - Greater Manchester

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £4,280,000

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £1,240,000

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

1

Lot No

1

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

31 March 2020

V.2.2) Information about tenders

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

Ingeus UK Ltd

London

E1 8HG

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £1,400,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

STAR Legal

Trafford

M32 0TH

Country

United Kingdom