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Planning

## **MID-21-04 - School Counselling Service**

Midlothian Council

F21: Social and other specific services – public contracts

Prior information notice without call for competition

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-002514

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-029139

Published 8 February 2021, 4:40pm

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

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

Midlothian Council

Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street

Dalkeith

EH22 1DN

#### **Email**

[hayley.bell@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:hayley.bell@midlothian.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1312707500

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **NUTS code**

UKM73 - East Lothian and Midlothian

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

Buyer's address

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00336](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00336)

**I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

**I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from 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**

MID-21-04 - School Counselling Service

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 85312320 - Counselling services

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

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

Midlothian Council are seeking expressions of interest from Providers with experience of delivering a School Counselling Service for children and young people aged 10 – 18 years.

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

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

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

- 85312320 - Counselling services

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

NUTS codes

- UKM73 - East Lothian and Midlothian

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

Midlothian Council are seeking expressions of interest from Providers with experience of delivering a School Counselling Service for children and young people aged 10 – 18 years.

### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

5 April 2021

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## Section VI. Complementary information

### VI.3) Additional information

Scottish Government has allocated additional funding to local authorities until March 2023 for the provision of school counselling services to support children and young people aged 10-18 years.

The service must be available 52 weeks of the year and outside school hours and settings. It will be delivered by appropriately qualified and supervised staff. Service delivery will be flexible throughout the contract term so that children and young people can access support remotely online and via the telephone, and in person when Covid restrictions are lifted to allow the resumption of face to face counselling sessions and drop-ins. The service will provide a mix of scheduled counselling sessions and drop-ins throughout the contract term, both online and in person.

Evaluation and feedback data will be collected continuously from beneficiaries and regularly from key stakeholders, and the Provider will respond to any changes in local need by working flexibly and in close partnership with stakeholders to introduce appropriate service developments. Similarly the Provider will work effectively with local partners to develop any system changes that may enable easier or wider access, increase service reach and or improve beneficiary outcomes, such as the introduction of a single point of access for all mental health referrals.

The provider will actively support awareness raising in schools and with other key partners to embed understanding of the potential benefits offered by counselling services, and will provide critical incident support should the need for such arise during the contract term.

#### Practical Arrangements

There will be a supplier event on Monday 22nd February at 11am via Microsoft Teams. This event will give you the opportunity to find out in more detail what Midlothian Council is planning to do and also about the procurement rules that will govern the tender process. To book a place please contact Hayley Bell, tel: 07825 903178 or email: [Hayley.bell@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Hayley.bell@midlothian.gov.uk).

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the Public Contracts Scotland Web Site at [https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search\\_Switch.aspx?ID=643599](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=643599).

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