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Tender

## **Recruitment and Management of Children's Agency Social Workers**

Sandwell Childrens Trust

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-002953

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-03a184

Published 31 January 2023, 2:56pm

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

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

Sandwell Childrens Trust

The Wellman Building, Dudley Road

Oldbury

B69 3DL

#### **Contact**

Neil Whitehouse

#### **Email**

[neil\\_whitehouse@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:neil_whitehouse@sandwell.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **NUTS code**

UKG37 - Sandwell

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.sandwell.gov.uk](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk)

Buyer's address

[www.sandwell.gov.uk](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk)

**I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/sandwellmbc>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/sandwellmbc>

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to 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**

Recruitment and Management of Children's Agency Social Workers

Reference number

SMBC 23010

### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 79600000 - Recruitment services

### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

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

A key priority of the Trust's workforce strategy is to stabilise the workforce and build sustainable capacity for the future. A critical part of this is the Trust's ability to utilise Children's Agency Social Workers in an efficient and effective manner to meet any shortfalls in permanent staffing, and to deal with specific peaks in caseloads. The recruitment of children social workers is constantly challenging, with a shortage of sufficiently experienced candidates, a limited pipeline into the sector and it operates in a crowded geographical area. Within this it is acknowledged that agency workers play a critical part of the social care workforce to enable it to 'flex' to meet changing priorities and to fill resourcing gaps. In December 2019, the Trust applied the two-year extension option within the Agreement. Following a procurement process in 2021, an 18-month contract was awarded which expires at 31 May 2023.

### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £21,250,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

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

- 79600000 - Recruitment services
- 85310000 - Social work services
- 85300000 - Social work and related services

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

NUTS codes

- UKG37 - Sandwell

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

Please refer to ITT Documents

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

#### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Start date

1 June 2023

End date

30 November 2024

This contract is subject to renewal

No

#### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

#### **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

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## **Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

### **III.1) Conditions for participation**

#### **III.1.1) Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers**

List and brief description of conditions

Please refer to ITT Documents

#### **III.1.2) Economic and financial standing**

List and brief description of selection criteria

Please refer to ITT Documents

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required

Please refer to ITT Documents

#### **III.1.3) Technical and professional ability**

List and brief description of selection criteria

Please refer to ITT Documents

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required

Please refer to ITT Documents

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Open procedure

#### **IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system**

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with a single operator

In the case of framework agreements, provide justification for any duration exceeding 4 years:

Not Applicable

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

**IV.2) Administrative information**

**IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

27 February 2023

Local time

3:00pm

**IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English

**IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders**

Date

27 February 2023

Local time

3:00pm

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: Yes

### **VI.3) Additional information**

The Council will be using the In-tend e-Tendering System for this Procurement exercise, please visit <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/sandwellmbc> to access the Sandwell MBC In-tend Supplier Portal. From here you will be able to register your company, express an interest in the opportunity, and gain immediate access to the ITT and other related documents. In Order to View the On-Line Questionnaire and Submit a Tender, you will be required to `Opt-In`. For a Step by Step user guide to the Sandwell MBC In-tend Supplier Portal please click on the `Guidance for Suppliers` section of the website. All procurement responses must be carried out via the Sandwell MBC In-tend Supplier Portal. If you require further assistance in respect of the system, please contact the In-tend support team on 0844 272 8810.

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

The High Court of England

Royal Court of Justice the Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom