

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/002955-2022>

Award

Grounds Maintenance Contract Extension

Stratford-On-Avon District Council

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-002955

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-031225

Published 2 February 2022, 11:30am

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Stratford-On-Avon District Council

Elizabeth House

Stratford-Upon-Avon

CV376HX

Contact

Charlotte Hume

Email

charlotte.hume@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 1789267575

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKG13 - Warwickshire

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.stratford-dc.gov.uk

Buyer's address

www.csw-jets.co.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

Grounds Maintenance Contract Extension

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 77314000 - Grounds maintenance services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Intention to extend existing contract for grounds maintenance services under regulation 72(1)(e) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The contract is currently due to end on

31 March 2023. The intention is that it will be extended for a period of 1 year only from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.

The Council is currently aligning services with neighbouring Warwick District Council as part of a programme of shared services and joint arrangements. Warwickshire County Council is also looking at highway verge maintenance and future requirements, particularly in light of the climate change and biodiversity agenda. The contracting authority needs to devise the specification for the future contract in light of these competing considerations. It may need to consult further before arriving at the desired specification. There is a provisional timetable of activity for 2022/23 to ensure that the final specification is ready for the start a procurement process in early/late Spring 2023.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

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

Value excluding VAT: £531,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 77314000 - Grounds maintenance services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKG13 - Warwickshire

Main site or place of performance

Stratford-on-Avon District

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Council let the grounds maintenance contract in 2013 for a period of 5 years with optional 5-year extension. The contract was extended in 2018 and is due to expire on 31 March 2023. Much has changed since 2013, particularly around climate change and biodiversity in the past 2-3 years. The Environment Act 2021 (and any policy statements or regulations flowing from it) may have implications for environmental management, nature and biodiversity.

In December 2021, the Council and Warwick District Council submitted a formal business

case to the Secretary of State for Levelling up, Housing and Communities proposing a merger of the two councils into a new South Warwickshire Council. All services are run by joint heads of services and each service is being aligned, shared or merged in a programme of work between 2022 and 2024. In addition to the environmental and climate change aspirations, it will be necessary to reflect on service provision across both district councils, together with service activity by Warwickshire County Council, in devising a new specification for the future delivery of grounds maintenance services to the Council. This will take time to get right.

Given the scope and pace of the horizon changes highlighted above, it is essential that the new specification is properly developed to secure policy outcomes and value for money. An action plan has been drawn up setting up the various tasks and processes needed to arrive at a final specification and a one-year extension is the minimum period necessary to deliver this with any degree of confidence.

The Council is mindful of the need to act transparently and proportionately and in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The Council has concluded and believes that the modification is permissible under regulation 72(1)(e) i.e. because it is not substantial, having applied the various tests.

The grounds maintenance contract will therefore be modified in 2022 (after the expiry of 30 days from the date of this notice) to permit a further extension of 1 year to 31 March 2024. The new contract opportunity will be advertised in Spring 2023.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

- New works/services, constituting a repetition of existing works/services

Explanation:

The Council let the grounds maintenance contract in 2013 for a period of 5 years with optional 5-year extension. The contract was extended in 2018 and is due to expire on 31 March 2023. Much has changed since 2013, particularly around climate change and

biodiversity in the past 2-3 years. The Environment Act 2021 (and any policy statements or regulations flowing from it) may have implications for environmental management, nature and biodiversity.

In December 2021, the Council and Warwick District Council submitted a formal business case to the Secretary of State for Levelling up, Housing and Communities proposing a merger of the two councils into a new South Warwickshire Council. All services are run by joint heads of services and each service is being aligned, shared or merged in a programme of work between 2022 and 2024. In addition to the environmental and climate change aspirations, it will be necessary to reflect on service provision across both district councils, together with service activity by Warwickshire County Council, in devising a new specification for the future delivery of grounds maintenance services to the Council. This will take time to get right.

Given the scope and pace of the horizon changes highlighted above, it is essential that the new specification is properly developed to secure policy outcomes and value for money. An action plan has been drawn up setting up the various tasks and processes needed to arrive at a final specification and a one-year extension is the minimum period necessary to deliver this with any degree of confidence.

The Council is mindful of the need to act transparently and proportionately and in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The Council has concluded and believes that the modification is permissible under regulation 72(1)(e) i.e. because it is not substantial, having applied the various tests.

The grounds maintenance contract will therefore be modified in 2022 (after the expiry of 30 days from the date of this notice) to permit a further extension of 1 year to 31 March 2024. The new contract opportunity will be advertised in Spring 2023.

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

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

31 January 2022

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

idverde UK

Octavia House, Westwood Business Park, Westwood Way

Coventry

CV4 8JP

Email

procurement@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKG13 - Warwickshire

Internet address

www.stratford-dc.gov.uk

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: £531,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court of England and Wales

London

Country

United Kingdom