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Tender

## **Kent and Medway Independent Fostering Framework Agreement**

Kent County Council  
Medway Council

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-003064

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02e225

Published 30 January 2024, 1:53pm

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

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

Kent County Council

Sessions House

Maidstone

ME14 1XQ

#### **Contact**

Ms Orla Miller

#### **Email**

[orla.miller@kent.gov.uk](mailto:orla.miller@kent.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 3000412878

**Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKJ4 - Kent

**Justification for not providing organisation identifier**

Not on any register

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

**I.1) Name and addresses**

Medway Council

Chatham

**Email**

[caroline.friday@medway.gov.uk](mailto:caroline.friday@medway.gov.uk)

**Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKJ4 - Kent

**Justification for not providing organisation identifier**

Not on any register

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.medway.gov.uk/>

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

The contract involves joint procurement

## **I.3) Communication**

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

<https://procontract.due-north.com/Advert/Index?advertId=cfd3f5c2-3b36-ec11-810e-005056b64545>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://procontract.due-north.com/Advert/Index?advertId=cfd3f5c2-3b36-ec11-810e-005056b64545>

## **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**

Kent and Medway Independent Fostering Framework Agreement

Reference number

DN567302

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

- 85300000 - Social work and related services

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

Services

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

Kent County Council and Medway Council are seeking to commission from Independent Fostering Providers a range of stable, high-quality foster care homes for children 0-18 years old that value, support and encourage them to grow and develop as individuals. In addition to promoting their health and general well-being the Providers need to be committed to ensuring that their foster carers recognise the importance of the educational achievement of Children in Care and work with us in raising their academic attainment.

The aims of the service will be to:

- Enable access to a wide range of foster care placement types from registered, good quality IFP's
- Improve placement stability supported by effective matching
- Exhibit strong collaboration and partnership working to ensure the child's

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

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Tenders may be submitted for all lots

Maximum number of lots that may be awarded to one tenderer: 3

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

Lot 1

Lot No

1

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

- 85300000 - Social work and related services

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

NUTS codes

- UKJ4 - Kent

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

- Short Term/Task Centred/Bridging, up to 12 months
- Long Term or permanent homes (as per the Care/Placement Plan; 12 months and over)
- Parent(s) and Child(ren)
- Short Break Homes
- Children with Disabilities
- Solo homes, with no other children/young people within the fostering household.
- Homes for large sibling groups to enable brothers and sisters to live together.
- Emergency foster care beds, where foster carers are able to care for children without the usual planning and/or thorough assessment process having taken place because of the need to ensure the immediate safety and welfare of the child.
- Homes for large sibling groups to enable brothers and sisters to live together.
- Emergency foster care beds, where foster carers are able to care for children without the usual planning and/or thorough assessment process having taken place because of the need to ensure the immediate safety and welfare of the child.

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

Quality criterion - Name: Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents / Weighting: 100

Price

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

Start date

1 April 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

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

Lot 2

Lot No

2

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

- 85300000 - Social work and related services

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

NUTS codes

- UKJ4 - Kent

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

A small number of our children and young people in care, are placed within a residential children's home due to the complexity of their needs during a specific period in their childhood. For some, past adverse family experiences may lead to poor emotional and mental health expressed through depression, self-harming behaviours or separation anxieties and attachment disorders. They are often highly vulnerable young people whose behaviour could be perceived to make them or others more at risk.

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

Quality criterion - Name: Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents / Weighting: 100

Price

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

Start date

1 April 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

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

### **II.2.1) Title**

Lot 3

Lot No

3

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

- 85300000 - Social work and related services

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

NUTS codes

- UKJ4 - Kent

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

We are seeking specialist foster carers, predominantly for adolescents. For some, past adverse family experiences may have led to poor emotional and mental health expressed through depression, self-harming behaviours or separation anxieties and attachment disorders. They are often highly vulnerable young people whose behaviour could be perceived to make them or others more at risk.

These young people:

- may be stepping down from residential care or
- more likely requiring a fostering home at short notice (similar to an Emergency Bed).

The foster carers will need to care for a young person with complex needs and potentially a number of risk-taking behaviours which may include violence, absconding, offending and gang association. It is expected that these would be predominately a solo arrangement.

The level of complexity and need of these young people are above the thresholds that the Placing Authorities would source as part of an enhanced placement through its IFP Fostering Framework Agreement. It is anticipated that only a very small number of these young people would require this type of fostering home in any given year.

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

Quality criterion - Name: Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated

only in the procurement documents / Weighting: 100

Price

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

Start date

1 April 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

## **Section IV. Procedure**

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

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

Open procedure

#### **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.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure**

Notice number: [2021/S 000-028793](#)

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

Date

23 February 2024

Local time

4:00pm

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

English

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

Date

28 February 2024

Local time

2:00pm

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

This is a recurrent procurement: No

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

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

Kent County Council

Sessions House

Maidstone

ME14 1XQ

Country

United Kingdom