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Contract

CWC23060 Provision of Community and Voluntary Service

Wolverhampton City Council

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-003109

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0435cc

Published 30 January 2024, 4:07pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Wolverhampton City Council

Civic Centre, St. Peters Square

WOLVERHAMPTON

WV11RL

Contact

Adebimpe Winjobi

Email

adebimpe.winjobi@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKG39 - Wolverhampton

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.wolverhampton.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**

CWC23060 Provision of Community and Voluntary Service

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 98000000 - Other community, social and personal services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The community and voluntary service provision will take the lead in working collaboratively

with communities and groups across the protected characteristics and equalities to ensure all are supported and represented. The Strategic Lead will proactively engage with organisations and local people in venues across the City and digitally, to identify current and emerging priorities and develop an action plan for key outcomes to be met.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

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

Value excluding VAT: £3,500,000

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Infrastructure Support Service

Lot No

1

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 98000000 - Other community, social and personal services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKG39 - Wolverhampton

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Infrastructure in the Voluntary, Community & Social Enterprise Sector (VCSE) - Sustainability, Growth, Partnership & Volunteering.

The provider will establish a clear and robust Governance structure for the sector that is representative and accountable for all. As a representative for communities, organisations and the system the primary role will be to act on behalf, in partnership and collaboratively with community organisations. The strategic lead will co-design and co-produce a range of initiatives that put local people at the heart of the provision, whilst bringing stakeholders and

the wider sector on board to respond to needs in our communities. They will also provide organisational support, capacity building and training initiatives that equip local people and primarily small grassroots VCSE organisations with the tools they need to respond to needs in our communities so that they may thrive and grow.

The provider will also be the strategic lead on a Citywide Structured and Supported Volunteering Programme which raises the profile of volunteering in the City, and embeds a City offer that enables local people wishing to volunteer to gain access to face to face and digital resources to easily navigate their way to a suitable role and support organisations to create, develop and grow their own volunteer programmes.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Service Quality and Social Value / Weighting: 100

Price - Weighting: 0

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

option of up to 2 years contract extension on an annual basis at the sole discretion of the council

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Welfare Debt and Financial Support Service

Lot No

2

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 98000000 - Other community, social and personal services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKG39 - Wolverhampton

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Welfare, Debt, Housing and Benefits Advice

The benefits system is complex and can be difficult to understand. Residents need different levels of support to understand what they are entitled to, or to complete forms with full and accurate information. The emphasis for this provider is a proactive and immediate response where required to people in crisis, support to maximise income and resilience, prevention of adverse repercussions, stabilisation and management of life's challenges, progression towards better life chances.

The Provider will take the lead in delivering a suite of community-based services offering advice, information, practical help and support (including initiatives encouraging self-help and resilience building) to some of the City's most vulnerable people in the areas of welfare benefits, debt, housing, employment and welfare advice.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Service Quality and Social Value / Weighting: 100

Price - Weighting: 0

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

Option to extend for up to 2 years on an annual basis at the sole discretion of the council

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 Council has entered into two contracts for the provision of community and voluntary services each for a period of five years with options exercisable by the Council to extend the contracts by up to a further two years.

The Council published a notice calling for competition on the Contracts Finder website on 12 June 2023 (titled: CWC23060 Provision of Community and Voluntary Service, currently available at the following url:

<https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/notice/0ec788f1-47d9-4627-a536-feb4f432e0d3?origin=SearchResults&p=1>) and received tenders from 4 providers.

The Council completed the procurement process and awarded contracts to the economic operators identified in this contract award notice. However, the Council subsequently identified that in error the Council had failed to select the correct settings within the procurement portal to have a contract notice published on the Find a Tender Service website.

The Council considered whether to conclude the procurement processes notwithstanding that accidental omission and concluded that it was rational to do so on the following basis:

- 1) The Council provided transparency to the supplier market by publishing a notice on the Contracts Finder website. The Council considers that it is likely that suppliers wishing to deliver services in England registered to Find a Tender Service would also register to Contracts Finder and would have identified the existence of the opportunity as a result.
- 2) The Council received tenders from 4 suppliers and concludes that therefore the Contracts Finder notice was effective in making the opportunity known in the market.
- 3) The procurement was for services similar to those advertised to the market by contract notice reference: 2022/S 000-019852 published in July 2022 which advertised a procurement for community and voluntary services which was subsequently abandoned prior

to tender submission (in October 2022). Whilst that procurement was abandoned it did have the effect of engaging the supplier market wishing to compete to deliver community and voluntary services in Wolverhampton. Six suppliers expressed an intention to submit tenders in the abandoned procurement whereas eleven suppliers expressed an intention to submit tenders in the current procurement (though in the event only four submitted completed tenders). All of the suppliers that expressed an intention to submit tenders in the previous, abandoned, procurement, did likewise in the current procurement indicating that the Contracts Finder notice was effective at providing transparency to the pool of suppliers most likely to wish to compete for the opportunities.

Taking all of the above factors into account the Council concluded that it has tested the market and advertised the opportunity to participate in the procurement sufficiently that it was rational for the Council to conclude the contracts and that it would have been disproportionate to abandon the procurement.

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

Contract No

CWC23060

Lot No

1

Title

Infrastructure Support Service

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

1 January 2024

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 3

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Wolverhampton Voluntary and Community Action

16 Temple Street

Wolverhampton

WV2 4AN

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKG39 - Wolverhampton

Companies House

2288239

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £1,400,000

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

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

CWC23060

Lot No

2

Title

Welfare, Debt, Housing and Benefits Advice

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

1 January 2024

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 2

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Citizens Advice Dudley and Wolverhampton

Dudley House, 9-11 Stone Street

Dudley

DY1 1NP

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKG36 - Dudley

Charity Commission (England and Wales)

516877

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £2,100,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £2,100,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

City of Wolverhampton Council

Civic Centre, St Peters Square,

Wolverhampton

WV1 1SH

Email

adebimpe.winjobi@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom