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Tender

Emergency Welfare Scheme: Oxfordshire Crisis Fund

Oxfordshire County Council

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-003636

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03a34d

Published 6 February 2023, 5:12pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Oxfordshire County Council

3rd Floor, County Hall

Oxford

OX1 1ND

Contact

Mr Thomas Ashby

Email

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Telephone

+44 7827822641

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

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=4bcecbc5-3fa6-ed11-811f-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=4bcecbc5-3fa6-ed11-811f-005056b64545>

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

Emergency Welfare Scheme: Oxfordshire Crisis Fund

Reference number

DN654399

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72250000 - System and support services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

It is well understood that the availability of emergency welfare funds, designed to support low-income households with urgent and unforeseen needs, can help prevent immediate crisis turning into long-term deprivation.

Unlike the majority of upper tier authorities, Oxfordshire County Council ("the Council") currently has no business-as-usual crisis fund.

While specific funding is available in some local areas (for example from Town and Parish Councils) and for specific groups, there is no equivalent fund open to all eligible residents across the County. This leaves a gap for 'last-resort' support in the Oxfordshire system.

The Government has increasingly adopted an expectation that local delivery capacity for emergency scheme exists and that this can address gaps in national welfare provision. Further, the Government assumes that this infrastructure is in place and can be used to spend new funding streams at short notice.

Following the administration of a series of short-term interventions through the COVID-19 and subsequent cost-of-living crisis, the Council has now identified a business case for implanting a new scheme and a revenue budget has been agreed for 2023/24-2025/26 inclusive.

The Council wishes to procure the capacity to deliver and provide for a new Oxfordshire Crisis Fund that will:

Receive applications and / or referrals for crisis funding; determine eligibility against criteria set by the Council; issue support where an application is successful in a form

agreed by the Council; communicate with unsuccessful applications; and, in all cases, offer signposting and additional support information.

Issue support to individuals specifically pre-identified by the Council as in need of support, without the need for an eligibility check.

Implement an appropriate level-1 complaints procedure.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

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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 April 2023

End date

31 March 2025

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

Potential of 2 years on aggregate.

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

Restricted procedure

Accelerated procedure

Justification:

Restricted as this relates to social and health related services.

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

20 February 2023

Local time

12:00pm

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

English

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

Oxfordshire County Council

Oxford

Country

United Kingdom