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Tender

Access to Counselling in Schools

Renfrewshire Council

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-003755

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03a398

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Renfrewshire Council

Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street

Paisley

PA1 1JB

Email

shona.brydson@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 3003000300

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM83 - Inverclyde, East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00400

I.3) Communication

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

<https://www.publictendersscotland.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://www.publictendersscotland.publiccontractsscotland.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

Access to Counselling in Schools

Reference number

RC-CPU-22-251

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85312320 - Counselling services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Renfrewshire Council Children's Services is seeking a provider to deliver counselling services to improve the mental health and well-being and emotional resilience of children and young people who are negatively affected or are at a risk of being affected by poor mental health.

This will be a universal counselling service accessible to children and young people in primary, secondary and ASN schools from Primary 1 to S6, predominantly delivered in a school setting.

Counsellor(s) (1.0 – 3.0 FTE counsellors per school depending on school roll) will be required in each of Renfrewshire's 11 secondary schools and 1 ASN school to work with secondary school young people. In addition, a team of counsellors should be available to provide peripatetic counselling services across 50 primary schools, 1 ASN school and to parents/carers where appropriate.

It is expected that the provider will be flexible and responsive to local need as appropriate.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85312300 - Guidance and counselling services
- 85312320 - Counselling services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM83 - Inverclyde, East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire

Main site or place of performance

Renfrewshire

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Children's Services is seeking a provider to deliver counselling services to improve the mental health and wellbeing and emotional resilience of children and young people who are negatively affected or are at risk of being affected by poor mental health.

This will be a universal counselling service accessible to children and young people in primary, secondary and ASN schools from Primary 1 to S6, predominantly delivered in a school setting.

Counsellor(s) (1.0 – 3.0 FTE counsellors per school depending on school roll) will be required in each of Renfrewshire's 11 secondary schools and 1 ASN school to work with secondary school young people. In addition, a team of counsellors should be available to provide peripatetic counselling services across 50 primary schools, 1 ASN school and to parents/carers where appropriate.

Renfrewshire Council is seeking to maximise the number of days of in-school counselling provided across secondary schools in addition to a peripatetic service in primary and ASN schools.

It is expected that the provider will be flexible and responsive to local need as appropriate.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Child Protection / Weighting: 0% (Pass/Fail)

Quality criterion - Name: Complaints Procedure / Weighting: 2.0%

Quality criterion - Name: Proposals for Delivering the Service / Weighting: 35.0%

Quality criterion - Name: Implementation Plan / Weighting: 8.0%

Quality criterion - Name: Service Delivery Improvement / Weighting: 8.0%

Quality criterion - Name: Unforeseen Events / Weighting: 5.0%

Quality criterion - Name: Management and Staffing / Weighting: 12.0%

Quality criterion - Name: Community Benefits / Weighting: 5.0%

Quality criterion - Name: Fair Working Practices / Weighting: 5.0%

Price - Weighting: 20

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

Duration in months

34

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.2.14) Additional information

As there is a current service provider, TUPE may apply.

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

Formal counselling should be undertaken by a professional counsellor, acting in their specialist role, and in accordance with a strict code of ethics, which requires confidentiality, accountability and clinical supervision.

- All school-based staff will be required to have an up-to-date enhanced disclosure Scotland PVG.

- All counsellors must be appropriately trained and qualified and accredited by their professional/therapeutic bodies, such as Counselling & Psychotherapy in Scotland (COSCA), or British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP).

The service Provider should conform to agreed professional standards, such as those provided by COSCA and BACP.

The service Provider should conform to current best practice for school-based counselling, specifically in respect of counsellors' qualifications, supervision policy, child protection policies and continuous professional development and learning.

III.1.2) Economic and financial standing

List and brief description of selection criteria

INSURANCE

The successful Tenderer must hold, or commit to obtain prior to the commencement of and duration of the Contract of any subsequently awarded contract, the types and levels of insurance indicated below:

- Employers Liability - 5 million GBP minimum (statutory), each and every claim

- Public Liability - 5 million GBP minimum, each and every claim

- Professional Indemnity - 1 million GBP minimum, in the aggregate

- Motor Vehicle - If vehicles are used at all for this contract (ie for attending council premises for supplier performance monitoring meetings): Third party Motor Vehicle cover

(statutory) to be evidenced with a MV certificate in the COMPANY name; OR where there is no company fleet and employees use their own vehicles instead, a letter signed by a person of appropriate authority confirming that the provider has ongoing arrangements in place to ensure that employees' vehicles are appropriately insured and maintained for business purposes.

FINANCIAL

The Council will use Dun & Bradstreet (D&B) to assist in its determination of the organisation's financial status and risk. The Council would expect Tenderers to have a minimum D&B Failure Score of 20, however failure to meet this Failure Score would not necessarily merit a 'FAIL' as the D&B Failure Score is only one factor used by the Council in assessing the acceptability or otherwise of a Tenderer's financial status.

The Council will take into account the Tenderer's response to the SPD Part 1V Question 4B.1.1. Further information is contained within the Tender Documents.

III.1.3) Technical and professional ability

List and brief description of selection criteria

Tenderers will be required to provide examples that demonstrate that they have the relevant experience to deliver the services as described.

A minimum of two examples will be required.

III.2) Conditions related to the contract

III.2.1) Information about a particular profession

Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession

Reference to the relevant law, regulation or administrative provision

- a) All staff appointed to the contract must have an up-to-date enhanced disclosure Scotland PVG carried out at the providers cost before being able to provide these services.
- b) Tenderers will be required to confirm that they and/or the service provider have the relevant educational and professional qualifications.
- c) All staff must be appropriately trained and qualified and accredited by relevant professional/therapeutic bodies. For example, counselling staff delivering services should be accredited with COSCA (Counselling and Psychotherapy in Scotland) or BACP (British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy) or equivalent.

d) Tendering organisations should conform to agreed professional standards, such as those provided by COSCA and BACP, and current best practice for school-based counselling.

III.2.2) Contract performance conditions

The Contract will be subject to the Council's Contract Management Procedures; Please refer to the Tender Documents.

III.2.3) Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract

Obligation to indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to performing the contract

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

Date

9 March 2023

Local time

12:00pm

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

English

IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender

Tender must be valid until: 4 August 2023

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

9 March 2023

Local time

12:00pm

Place

Via Microsoft Teams

Information about authorised persons and opening procedure

At a minimum two people, including one Senior Procurement Specialist from the Corporate Procurement Unit will be in attendance at the tender opening.

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.2) Information about electronic workflows

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

VI.3) Additional information

Full details of the exclusion and assessment criteria are detailed within the SPD and Invitation to Tender.

Tenderers are required to:

- Complete the SPD to be concluded for the Contract.
- Complete a SPD by sub-contractors to be concluded for the Contract.
- Comply with the Service Specification;
- Comply with the General Conditions of Contract and Special Conditions of Contract (H&SC);
- Confirm if managerial staff and those delivering the service are appropriately registered (as noted within the Tender Documents);
- Confirm staff have been PVG checked.

The contract may be modified in accordance with Regulation 72 of the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015.

The Council will use Dun & Bradstreet (D&B) to assist in its determination of the organisation's financial status and risk. The Council would expect Tenderers to have a minimum D&B Failure Score of 20, however failure to meet this Failure Score would not necessarily merit a 'FAIL' as the D&B Failure Score is only one factor used by the Council in assessing the acceptability or otherwise of a Tenderer's financial status.

The Council will take into account the Tenderer's response to the SPD Part 1V Question 4B.1.1. Further information is contained within the Tender Documents.

It is recommended that tenderers review their own D&B Failure Score in advance of submitting their tender submission. If, following this review, Tenderers consider that the D&B Failure Score does not reflect their current financial status, the tenderer should attach a document to this section giving a detailed explanation together with any relevant supporting independent evidence. The Council will review any such information as part of the evaluation of Tenderer's financial status.

Where the Tenderer is under no obligation to publish accounts and therefore does not have a D&B Failure Score or equivalent rating, they must provide their audited financial accounts for the previous 2 years as part of their Tender Submission in order that the Council may assess these to determine the suitability of the Tenderer to undertake a Contract of this size.

Where a consortium bid is received, the D&B Failure Score of each consortium member shall be assessed. Any accounts or documents submitted must be in English and, if appropriate, certified as accurate translations.

For Sole Traders please provide submitted Tax Returns for the previous 3 years as part of the Tender Submission in order that the Council may assess these to determine the suitability of the Tenderer to undertake a Contract of this size.

Where the Tenderer is a subsidiary of a group but is applying as a separate legal entity and fails to meet the minimum D&B Failure Score (or equivalent) as a company, a parent company or bank guarantee may be required to allow progression in the tender process.

The Council will be the sole judge as to whether these are required and it shall notify Tenderers accordingly. The parent company or bank guarantee must meet the minimum financial requirements as assessed by the Council and must be in the form requested by the Council.

Where the Tenderer intends to sub-contract more than 25% of any Contract value to a single sub-contractor then the foregoing actions will apply similarly to the relevant sub-contractor(s). The Council also reserves the right to reject the use of sub-contractors following evaluation of the sub-contractor's financial status.

The buyer is using PCS-Tender to conduct this ITT exercise. The Project code is 23274. For more information see:

<http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/info/InfoCentre.aspx?ID=2343>

Community benefits are included in this requirement. For more information see:

<https://www.gov.scot/policies/public-sector-procurement/community-benefits-in->

[procurement/](#)

A summary of the expected community benefits has been provided as follows:

Information regarding Community Benefits is contained within the Invitation to Tender documentation.

(SC Ref:719176)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Sheriff Court or the Court of Session

See VI.4.3 Below

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

An economic operator that suffers or risks suffering, loss or damage attributable to breach of duty under the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015 (SSI 2015/446, as amended) may bring proceedings in the Sheriff Court or the Court of Session in accordance with Regulation 88 of the 2015 Regulations.