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Tender

Inward Investment and Visitor Economy Services

Kent County Council

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-003766

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-043753

Published 5 February 2024, 4:46pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Kent County Council

County Hall

Maidstone

ME14 1XQ

Contact

Miss Molly Roast

Email

Molly.Roast@kent.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 3000414141

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKJ4 - Kent

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

I.3) Communication

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

<https://www.kentbusinessportal.org.uk/>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://www.kentbusinessportal.org.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

Inward Investment and Visitor Economy Services

Reference number

DN709565

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79400000 - Business and management consultancy and related services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Kent County Council is seeking a supplier or consortium that can provide the strategic lead on the delivery of inward investment and visitor economy services for Kent & Medway to support the priorities set out in the Kent & Medway Economic Framework. The successful supplier or consortium must:

1. Demonstrate an excellent understanding of the key issues facing the visitor economy sector in Kent and an ability to develop innovative and creative solutions to grow the local visitor economy.
2. Have the ability to be the inward investment agency for Kent & Medway, and demonstrate an excellent understanding of the key issues companies face when looking to relocate, knowledge of the local industrial and commercial property market and a expertise in identifying investment leads, supporting companies during a relocation process and once established.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ4 - Kent

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Kent County Council is seeking a supplier or consortium that can provide the strategic

lead on the delivery of inward investment and visitor economy services for Kent & Medway to support the priorities set out in the Kent & Medway Economic Framework. The successful supplier or consortium must:

1. Demonstrate an excellent understanding of the key issues facing the visitor economy sector in Kent and an ability to develop innovative and creative solutions to grow the local visitor economy.
2. Have the ability to be the inward investment agency for Kent & Medway, and demonstrate an excellent understanding of the key issues companies face when looking to relocate, knowledge of the local industrial and commercial property market and a expertise in identifying investment leads, supporting companies during a relocation process and once established.

The successful supplier or consortium should be able to demonstrate competence in the delivery of inward investment and visitor economy services.

The successful supplier or consortium will be expected to deliver, in close liaison with Kent County Council and Medway Council, specific outcomes that support the implementation of the Kent & Medway Economic Framework and wider 'brand Kent' programme activities to promote the county's key assets and opportunities to external audiences. The work of the successful supplier or consortium will make a significant contribution to the economic development agenda in Kent & Medway and will link closely to relevant stakeholder work in the county and internationally. Prospective bidders are required to specify how they will perform this role, and to demonstrate competence in such delivery.

The successful supplier will develop innovative and creative solutions to secure inward investment in Kent and Medway and boost and enhance the visitor economy and should specify how they will deliver and evidence their activities.

The key features of the inward investment element of the service are; Securing external investment into Kent & Medway that creates new jobs and retains existing jobs; Promoting investment opportunities in Kent & Medway to overseas markets; Supporting supply chain opportunities and cluster development; Maintaining close contact with investing businesses through an after-care support programme.

The key features of the visitor economy element of the service are; Working to increase visitor numbers and spend in Kent & Medway; increasing the number of overnight visitor stays in the county, supporting and promoting local businesses in the visitor economy (including attractions, accommodation, leisure, retail and hospitality); securing new tour operator itineraries in Kent & Medway, supporting the creation of jobs in the visitor economy sector and marketing Kent & Medway as a year round visitor destination.

The successful supplier or consortium will also demonstrate how its activities under the contract will be evidenced and deliver and contribute to key economic outcomes for Kent & Medway including those highlighted in the Kent & Medway Economic Framework.

All Expressions of Interest must be registered via the Kent Business Portal and all interested candidates must submit a Selection Questionnaire via the Kent Business Portal by 6th March 2024. The Selection Questionnaire consists of a range of questions, only candidates who meet the minimum criteria will proceed to participate in the Invitation to Tender stage.

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 July 2024

End date

31 March 2026

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

Competitive procedure with negotiation

IV.1.5) Information about negotiation

The contracting authority reserves the right to award the contract on the basis of the initial tenders without conducting negotiations

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

IV.2) Administrative information

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

Date

6 March 2024

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: Yes

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Kent County Council

Invicta House

Maidstone

ME14 1XQ

Country

United Kingdom