

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/003781-2023>

Not applicable

## **Contract for 16+ Accommodation and Support**

Kent County Council

F14: Notice for changes or additional information

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-003781

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03a361

Published 7 February 2023, 5:11pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority/entity**

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

Kent County Council

County Hall

Maidstone

ME14 1XQ

#### **Contact**

Ms Hazel South

#### **Email**

[Hazel.South@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Hazel.South@kent.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 3000418153

#### **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>

---

**Section II: Object**

**II.1) Scope of the procurement**

**II.1.1) Title**

Contract for 16+ Accommodation and Support

Reference number

DN654239

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 85311000 - Social work services with accommodation

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

Kent County Council has a statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of

Kent Children in Care and ensure best value for money it spends on behalf of the Kent population. It also has a statutory responsibility to ensure there is safe and sufficient

accommodation for Children in Care. The KCC Sufficiency Strategy for 2022-2027 sets out

our approach to meet this statutory responsibility over the next five years.

In addition, in December 2021, the Department for Education outlined its intention to introduce national standards for independent and semi-independent provision for looked after children and care leavers aged 16 and 17, which will be overseen by an Ofsted led registration and inspection regime. The implication of this, is that current provision of unregulated accommodation and support services within Kent, will need to be re-commissioned during a 12 months transition process, commencing in April 2023, to meet

the new national regulation standards.

The Council is working to redesign and align the existing accommodation and support pathways for Care Leavers, Children in Care and Children in Need 16 and 17 year-olds. This

includes purchasing a good range of stable, safe, and well-maintained accommodation and

support services that are flexible to meet individual and changing demands.

This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is to advise prospective providers of the Council's intention to hold early market engagement with providers, in order to ascertain their intention about becoming regulated providers, and plan and conduct the procurement of the

Accommodation and Support service, with the aim to commence the procurement by 1 April

2023.

---

## Section VI. Complementary information

### VI.6) Original notice reference

Notice number: [2023/S 000-003673](#)

---

## Section VII. Changes

### VII.1.2) Text to be corrected in the original notice

Section number

II.1.4

Instead of

Text

Kent County Council has a statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of

Kent Children in Care and ensure best value for money it spends on behalf of the Kent population. It also has a statutory responsibility to ensure there is safe and sufficient accommodation for Children in Care. The KCC Sufficiency Strategy for 2022-2027 sets out

our approach to meet this statutory responsibility over the next five years.

In addition, in December 2021, the Department for Education outlined its intention to introduce national standards for independent and semi-independent provision for looked after children and care leavers aged 16 and 17, which will be overseen by an Ofsted led registration and inspection regime. The implication of this, is that current provision of unregulated accommodation and support services within Kent, will need to be decommissioned during a 12 months transition process, commencing in April 2023, to meet

the new national regulation standards.

The Council is working to redesign and align the existing accommodation and support pathways for Care Leavers, Children in Care and Children in Need 16 and 17 year-olds. This

includes purchasing a good range of stable, safe, and well-maintained accommodation and

support services that are flexible to meet individual and changing demands.

This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is to advise prospective providers of the Council's intention to hold early market engagement with providers, in order to ascertain their intention about becoming regulated providers, and plan and conduct the procurement of the

Accommodation and Support service, with the aim to commence the procurement by 1 April

2023.

Read

Text

Kent County Council has a statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of

Kent Children in Care and ensure best value for money it spends on behalf of the Kent population. It also has a statutory responsibility to ensure there is safe and sufficient accommodation for Children in Care. The KCC Sufficiency Strategy for 2022-2027 sets out

our approach to meet this statutory responsibility over the next five years.

In addition, in December 2021, the Department for Education outlined its intention to introduce national standards for independent and semi-independent provision for looked after children and care leavers aged 16 and 17, which will be overseen by an Ofsted led

registration and inspection regime. The implication of this, is that current provision of unregulated accommodation and support services within Kent, will need to be re-commissioned during a 12 months transition process, commencing in April 2023, to meet the new national regulation standards.

The Council is working to redesign and align the existing accommodation and support pathways for Care Leavers, Children in Care and Children in Need 16 and 17 year-olds. This

includes purchasing a good range of stable, safe, and well-maintained accommodation and

support services that are flexible to meet individual and changing demands.

This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is to advise prospective providers of the Council's intention to hold early market engagement with providers, in order to ascertain their intention about becoming regulated providers, and plan and conduct the procurement of the

Accommodation and Support service, with the aim to commence the procurement by 1 April

2023.