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Planning

## **Prepaid Cards for Families and Children in Care**

STOKE-ON-TRENT CITY COUNCIL

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-004346

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04dd44

Published 10 February 2025, 2:15pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

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

STOKE-ON-TRENT CITY COUNCIL

Civic Centre

STOKE-ON-TRENT

ST41HH

#### **Contact**

Agnes Ashun

#### **Email**

[agnes.ashun@stoke.gov.uk](mailto:agnes.ashun@stoke.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1782237651

**Fax**

+44 1782237651

**Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKG23 - Stoke-on-Trent

**Justification for not providing organisation identifier**

Sole trader

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.stoke.gov.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.stoke.gov.uk/>

**I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Regional or local authority

**I.5) Main activity**

General public services

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## **Section II: Object**

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

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Prepaid Cards for Families and Children in Care

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 66100000 - Banking and investment services

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

Stoke-on-Trent City Council is seeking to procure a provider for prepaid cards for use by families and children in care. These cards will replace cash payments and must allow the council to securely manage and reload funds for eligible users. The prepaid cards must have the following functionalities:

- Be reloadable with funds by the council
- Have PIN protection for security
- Allow for council staff to log in and manage top-ups
- Be secure, ensuring transactions are restricted to appropriate purchases
- Provide real-time transaction monitoring and reporting

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 30162000 - Smart cards

- 66172000 - Financial transaction processing and clearing-house services

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKG23 - Stoke-on-Trent

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The contract will involve the provision of a prepaid card service with the following key features:

#### 1. **\*\*Prepaid Card Functionality:\*\***

- Cards must be reloadable by the council.
- Designed for use by families and children in care.

#### 2. **\*\*Security Features:\*\***

- PIN protection for all transactions.
- Ability to restrict transactions to specific merchant categories (e.g., no ATM withdrawals, no gambling or alcohol purchases).

#### 3. **\*\*Council Management Portal:\*\***

- A secure online platform must be provided for council staff to:
  - Top up funds onto cards.
  - Monitor transactions in real time.
  - Set spending limits or restrictions.

#### 4. **\*\*Timely Income Management:\*\***

- Funds must be available to users immediately upon top-up.
- Preferably secure integration with council systems for payment tracking.

#### 5. **\*\*Transaction Monitoring & Reporting:\*\***

- Secure web-based portal for real-time transaction monitoring.
- Transaction data must be accessible in multiple formats, preferably in multiple formats but at a minimum must have CSV.
- Automated data transfers via **SFTP**.
- **API integration** for seamless data exchange with council systems.

#### 6. **Scalability and Flexibility:**

- The solution must accommodate fluctuating demand.
- Ability to issue additional cards as needed.

The council wishes to continue fulfilling its current services to the same high standard, though recognizes the need to engage with the innovative providers within the market to better understand the wider offer which may be available in an ever developing digital service area.

If you are interested in any further discussions regarding this notice please contact [Gabriella.brown@stoke.gov.uk](mailto:Gabriella.brown@stoke.gov.uk) with the reference 'Prepaid Cards' where additional details can be discussed.

### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

1 April 2025

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

The procurement will be conducted as an open and competitive tender process, ensuring compliance with public sector procurement regulations.

This PIN serves as early notification to potential suppliers regarding this upcoming opportunity. Interested parties are encouraged to express interest and provide feedback on the proposed scope of services.