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Tender

Early Learning and Childcare Funded Placements with Private ELC Providers Reopening of CC13109

West Lothian Council

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-004382

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04dd58

Published 10 February 2025, 3:28pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

West Lothian Council

West Lothian Civic Centre, Howden South Road

Livingston

EH54 6FF

Contact

Tom Henderson

Email

tom.henderson@westlothian.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM78 - West Lothian

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00140

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 to the above-mentioned address

Electronic communication requires the use of tools and devices that are not generally available. Unrestricted and full direct access to these tools and devices is possible, free of charge, at

<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

Early Learning and Childcare Funded Placements with Private ELC Providers Reopening of CC13109

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80110000 - Pre-school education services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

West Lothian Council intend re-opening The Flexible Framework for Early Learning and Childcare services (contract reference CC13109) to new entrants.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM78 - West Lothian

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

West Lothian Council intend to re-open flexible framework for early learning and childcare services (Contract Reference CC13109) to new entrants.

This requirement follows Scottish Government Follows the Child and providers will need to have National Standards gradings of good or above and be registered with the Care Inspectorate as a Day Care of Children or a Childminding Service

Please note that there is no requirement for providers who have been appointed to framework CC13109 to re-apply.

The council will be using the allowable flexibilities of the Light Touch Regime and this is detailed within the Invitation to Tender e.g. re-opening to new entrants.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 50

Price - Weighting: 50

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

Duration in months

27

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

At the sole discretion of the council, this contract may be extended for a period of a further 12 months.

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

Service providers awarded to Early Learning and Childcare Framework CC13109 or any subsequent re-opening do not need to apply to join.

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions for participation

III.1.2) Economic and financial standing

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

III.1.3) Technical and professional ability

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

III.2) Conditions related to the contract

III.2.2) Contract performance conditions

Service Providers must be able to meet the National Standards criteria - Good or Above.

Service Providers must be registered with the Care Inspectorate as a Day Care of Children Service or a Childminding Service

This is a mandatory requirement

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with several operators

Envisaged maximum number of participants to the framework agreement: 40

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

14 March 2025

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

Duration in months: 3 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

14 March 2025

Local time

12:00pm

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: Yes

Estimated timing for further notices to be published: In accordance with provisions 74 - 76 of the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015 for the Award of contracts for social and other specific services, the council may re-open this Flexible Framework to other providers at quarterly intervals after contract commencement in August 2024 and new service providers will be able to apply to be appointed to the Flexible Framework.

VI.3) Additional information

All information supplied by the Authority must be treated in confidence and not disclosed to third parties except

insofar as this is necessary to obtain sureties or quotations for the purpose of submitting the tender. All information supplied by you to the Authority will similarly be treated in confidence except:

(i) for any information required to be disclosed or otherwise provided by the Authority to any person in order to comply with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and any codes of practice applicable from time to time relating to access to public authorities' information.

The Tenderer shall co-operate, facilitate, support and assist the Authority in the provision of this information. In the event the Authority is required to provide information to any person as a result of a request made to it under such Act and/or codes, the Authority shall adhere to the requirements of such Act and/or codes in disclosing information relating to this Agreement, the Project documents and the Contractor.

(ii) that references may be sought from banks, existing or past clients, or other referees submitted by the tenderers;

(iii) for the disclosure of such information with regard to the outcome of the procurement process as may be required to be published in the Supplement to the current World Trade Organisation or elsewhere in accordance with the requirements of UK government policy on the disclosure of information relating to government contracts.

Procedures for Review - An economic operator that suffers, or is at risk of suffering, loss or damage attributable to a breach of duty under the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015 or the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014, may bring

proceedings in the Sheriff Court or the Court of Session'

Re SPD question 4B.6 In relation to D&B checks

In the event that the tenderer is not required to publish accounts and therefore does not have a Dun & Bradstreet or equivalent

rating, tenderers should be able to provide financial accounts when requested. Please note that if you intend on attaching 2 years accounts, these must include financial data over a 3 year period.

The council will review any information which is comparable to a Dun & Bradstreet score of 50 from a recognised Agency to substantiate the Tenderer's financial status.

In the event that a firm does not meet the financial criteria for consideration but has a parent company that does, the firm may still be eligible for consideration where their Tender Submission is supported by a Parent Company Guarantee.

Should after review of the financial evaluation the tenderer fail, then the tender submission may be rejected. Police Scotland and D&B checks will be carried out.

Community Benefits proposals will not form part of the award criteria and will not be evaluated. However, any Community Benefits proposals offered will become contractual obligations.

The buyer is using PCS-Tender to conduct this ITT exercise. The Project code is 24896. For more information see:

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

A sub-contract clause has been included in this contract. For more information see:

<http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/info/InfoCentre.aspx?ID=2363>

The Contracting Authority does not intend to include any community benefit requirements in this contract for the following reason:

As the council is not procuring services for Education services but is doing so for parent/carers this is deemed to be an excluded contract in accordance with Regulation 4 1 (b) 1 of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 where a contract is an excluded contract for the purposes of section 3 if (a) it is a contract of a kind to which Public Contracts Regulations do not apply by virtue of regulation 4 or 7 to 18 of those regulations, b(i) it is for the purpose of acquiring goods, works or services in order to sell, hire or provide them to other persons.

(SC Ref:789389)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Livingston sheriff court

West Lothian Civic Centre

Livingston

EH54 6FF

Country

United Kingdom