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Planning

Soft Market Testing for Growth Hub- 2025 (a Business Support Service)

Essex County Council

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-004818

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04de58

Published 12 February 2025, 5:30pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Essex County Council

County Hall, Market Road

Chelmsford

CM1 1QH

Contact

Mr Craig Johnson

Email

craig.johnson@essex.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 333

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKH3 - Essex

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://procontract.due-north.com/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.essex.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

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Soft Market Testing for Growth Hub- 2025 (a Business Support Service)

Reference number

DN762967

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

Essex County Council (ECC) intends to procure a specialist provider to provide Growth Hub support. Growth Hubs are an established business support service provided, which provide free and impartial signposting, information, and advice to all businesses looking to succeed, helping them to navigate the national and local support landscape. It is Government grant funded annually by the Department for Business and Trade (DBT) and provides a one stop shop for business support services that offers: • Information, navigation, and signposting via a coordinated, multi-channel service • One-to-one structured support to small and medium enterprises, incorporating a diagnostic assessment of business needs and advice and guidance.

This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is intended to alert providers to an opportunity to deliver the Growth Hub service for Essex County Council.

The estimated launch date for the opportunity is April 2025.

Please contact Craig Johnson at craig.johnson@essex.gov.uk to express an interest in the Growth Hub service.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH3 - Essex

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

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II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

1 April 2025

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: No