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Contract

Merton Adult Learning Main Delivery Service

London Borough of Merton

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-004853

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-029a66

Published 10 March 2021, 3:55pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

London Borough of Merton

Civic Centre, London Rd

Morden

SM4 5DX

Contact

Patricia Carlisle

Email

patricia.carlisle@merton.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 2085453646

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKI6 - Outer London – South

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

<http://www.merton.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

Merton Adult Learning Main Delivery Service

Reference number

DN504038

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80400000 - Adult and other education services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This contract will deliver adult learning opportunities via accredited and non-accredited training courses for Merton residents, and aims to improve the opportunities, wellbeing and employability of adults within the Borough.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £4,297,502.95

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKI6 - Outer London – South
- UKI63 - Merton, Kingston upon Thames and Sutton

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Merton Council wishes to see the continuance of a broad range of courses under the commissioning model including: A mixture of accredited and non-accredited learning.

Different levels of courses from basic to more advanced.

Varied scheduling throughout the day and evening and to include weekend courses where appropriate.

Delivery throughout Merton Borough as far as possible and particularly in the east of the borough.

Delivery throughout Merton Borough as far as possible and particularly in the east of the borough. The OJEU Contract Notice and Invitation to Tender (ITT) was published on 12 October 2020 via the London Tenders Portal, using the Open tender procedure. The submission deadline was the 23rd of November 2020 at Midday. 5 submissions were received, and the evaluation of the bids was carried out in line with the evaluation methodology of the tender.

Of the 5 tender submissions received by the submission deadline, 3 were deemed compliant.

The tender evaluation comprised of three stages: the first of which was a compliance check, on a pass/fail basis; the second was the quality and technical evaluation in line with the methodology prescribed in the tender; and the third was the assessment of price.

The tender evaluation was carried out by a panel of three officers from the Merton Adult Learning management team. Each compliant tender was evaluated individually by each member of the evaluation panel to undertake the quality and technical evaluation.

The panel met on 24 November to discuss individual scores and comments for each question in order to arrive at an agreed, moderated score.

A quality threshold was contained within the evaluation methodology. Suppliers who failed to meet this threshold would be disqualified from the process, and would not be progressed to stage 3 - price assessment. Only one supplier satisfactorily met the quality and technical threshold.

Of the 5 tenders received, 4 were considered to have pricing that was low. One supplier passed the quality threshold for the quality evaluation, the other bid prices were reviewed (although not evaluated) to enable a more thorough review and understanding of the remaining compliant bid.

The procurement documents states that the contract would be awarded on the basis of the

most economically advantageous tender to the Council, based on a 70% Technical / Quality and 30% Price split.

The bids were evaluated against the following Quality and Technical criteria:

Experience of delivering similar provision, Quality Assurance, Range of course provision and qualifications, Marketing and promotion , Governance/Management, geographic spread of delivery in Merton, Transition including TUPE, Innovation and Social Value.

The successful bidder is a well-established and large college group that currently delivers provision across 4 London boroughs, including Merton. They have similar commissioned contracts in place with two other London boroughs and have a proven track record of delivering high quality adult learning courses.

The bidder demonstrated value for money in their proposals and outlined a more diverse course offer that will address the skills needs of residents. They have demonstrable experience of delivery and high quality systems in place to ensure that residents progress and achieve in their courses. They also have excellent in borough facilities that mean that Merton residents will have access to high quality and specialist equipment for some courses. The provider also demonstrated its ability to be able to quickly adjust its plans in light of any future disruption and has a large and expanding online course offer.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 70%

Price - Weighting: 30%

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

Open procedure

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.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2020/S 202-492086](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

DN504038

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

9 March 2021

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 5

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 5

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 5

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

South Thames College

Wandsworth High St

London

SW18 2PP

Email

andrew.slade@stcq.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 02089187777

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI6 - Outer London – South

Internet address

<https://stcq.ac.uk/south-thames-college>

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot: £4,297,502.95

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Royal Courts of Justice

London

Country

United Kingdom