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Future opportunity

## **Leisure Futures**

Oxford City Council

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice reference: 2023/S 000-004935

Published: 17 February 2023, 3:59pm

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

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

Oxford City Council

Town Hall, St Aldates

Oxford

OX1 1BX

#### **Contact**

Procurement@oxford.gov.uk

#### **Email**

[procurement@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:procurement@oxford.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKJ1 - Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire

**National registration number**

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

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

Buyer's address

<https://www.oxford.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

Leisure Futures

#### II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 92000000 - Recreational, cultural and sporting services

#### II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

#### II.1.4) Short description

Oxford City Council is holding an 'open day' for potential partners on Friday March 3rd, 1.30pm – 4pm at Oxford Town Hall. This will enable potential partners to understand our vision and be able to ask questions. If you would like to attend this session please contact Hagan Lewisman (Active Communities Manager) at [hlewisman@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:hlewisman@oxford.gov.uk) by 5pm on the 2nd March, advising us of the names and roles of those attending. Thank you for considering us. Ian Brooke (Head of Community Services)

#### II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

### II.2) Description

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

- 92000000 - Recreational, cultural and sporting services

#### II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ1 - Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire

Main site or place of performance

Oxford

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

Oxford City Council prides itself in delivering world class services and innovatively finding new solutions to meet today's challenges. We are an award winning council with an excellent track record. Like most councils, our budgets are under immense pressure, we have seen a £7m reduction in funding because of austerity measures. While the Council will do all it can to prioritise protecting services that support the most vulnerable, we will need to find new ways of doing things and need to take tough choices to balance our budget. Our leisure centres contract expires in April 2024, which provides an opportunity for these facilities to better meet changing community needs – to reflect this we are considering changing the name from leisure to Active Wellbeing Centres. We will look to provide the best possible leisure service – we will do this through a period of dialogue with potential operators and compare this with an in-house comparator. We want an innovative solution that balances cost and social value and to improve the role the centres play in delivering the outcomes in the council's corporate plan. We also wish to explore how we can improve the links with parks and outdoor activity. This provides an opportunity to integrate local authority services to enable a preventative, customer focussed long-term model to be developed. We now have a window of opportunity to reimagine how Oxford's leisure centres could play a more substantial role in tackling health inequalities that is more integrated with work by health and Oxfordshire County Council public health providers. The recently produced Fit for the Future: the role of district councils in improving health and wellbeing: makes a strong case for integrating council-run leisure and wellbeing services into the health system.

### **II.2.14) Additional information**

A more detailed brief is available via the in-tend portal or [procurement@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:procurement@oxford.gov.uk). We are seeking expressions of interest to discuss the potential procurement. Oxford City Council is holding an 'open day' for potential partners on Friday March 3rd, 1.30pm – 4pm at Oxford Town Hall.

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

17 February 2023

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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

Introduction Oxford City Council prides itself in delivering world class services and innovatively finding new solutions to meet today's challenges. We are an award winning council with an excellent track record. Like most councils, our budgets are under immense pressure, we have seen a £7m reduction in funding because of austerity measures. While the Council will do all it can to prioritise protecting services that support the most vulnerable, we will need to find new ways of doing things and need to take tough choices to balance our budget. Our leisure centres contract expires in April 2024, which provides an opportunity for these facilities to better meet changing community needs – to reflect this we are considering changing the name from leisure to Active Wellbeing Centres. We will look to provide the best possible leisure service – we will do this through a period of dialogue with potential operators and compare this with an in-house comparator. We want an innovative solution that balances cost and social value and to improve the role the centres play in delivering the outcomes in the council's corporate plan. We also wish to explore how we can improve the links with parks and outdoor activity. This provides an opportunity to integrate local authority services to enable a preventative, customer focussed long-term model to be developed. We now have a window of opportunity to reimagine how Oxford's leisure centres could play a more substantial role in tackling health inequalities that is more integrated with work by health and Oxfordshire County Council public health providers. The recently produced Fit for the Future: the role of district councils in improving health and wellbeing: makes a strong case for integrating council-run leisure and wellbeing services into the health system. Our strategic direction Oxford City Council have just agreed a new Thriving Communities Strategy which includes our approach to leisure services. The Strategy brings together leisure, culture, and our work with communities to tackle inequalities. We will do this by encouraging well-designed neighbourhoods and parks where healthy lifestyles are the norm (sometimes called healthy place-shaping) developing skills, ensuring growth is inclusive, strengthening communities and improving access. Thriving Communities is one of the four interconnected pillars of this plan, alongside our commitment to tackling climate change, building an inclusive economy and affordable housing. We have just completed a £13 million pound leisure centre decarbonisation programme making innovative improvements to Oxford's leisure centres. The Strategy aims include targeting our resources where they will have the greatest impact, adapting and integrate our services so they can react to changing community needs, working more closely with partners and connecting with the integrated care system and developing sustainable, inclusive and accessible leisure and community offer.