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Tender

NAC/5011 Early Learning and Childcare Funded Entitlement Re-open March 2021

North Ayrshire Council

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-005491

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-029ce4

Published 18 March 2021, 11:32am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

North Ayrshire Council

Cunninghame House, Friars Croft

Irvine

KA12 8EE

Email

procurement@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 1294310000

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM93 - East Ayrshire and North Ayrshire mainland

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00337

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 electronically via

<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

NAC/5011 Early Learning and Childcare Funded Entitlement Re-open March 2021

Reference number

NAC/5011

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85312110 - Child daycare services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

North Ayrshire Council (the “Council”) is required by Scottish Government, under the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, to provide a funded placement of 1140 hours per year to all eligible 2 year olds and all children aged from 3 to those not yet attending Primary School, effective from August 2020.

In accordance with The Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015, Regulation 74, the Council intend to establish a Flexible Framework to secure external providers who can supplement the Council’s internal early learning and childcare provision. The proposed Framework will be for 5 years, with options for Tenderers to apply to the Framework every 6 months.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £3,200,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Tenders may be submitted for all lots

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Childminding Services

Lot No

2

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 80110000 - Pre-school education services
- 85312110 - Child daycare services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM93 - East Ayrshire and North Ayrshire mainland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Council has a statutory duty to make pre-school education available for eligible children under the Standards in Scotland's Schools Act 2000. The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and Statutory Guidance set out the increased entitlement of 600 hours, including the provision for eligible children and places a duty on the Council to offer increased flexibility to parents as to where and how

their child can access their Early Learning and Childcare entitlement. Scottish Government has since made a commitment to extend the entitlement to all eligible children to 1140 hours Early Learning and Childcare by 2020/2021 as set out in 'A Blueprint for 2020; Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland' (2016).

The Funding Follows the Child approach places choice in parents' and carers' hands allowing them to access their child's funded entitlement with a range of ELC providers, therefore the Council are seeking to set up a Flexible Framework for the provision of early learning and childcare services under the Light Touch Rules contained within the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015. Lot 2 of this Flexible Framework sets out the minimum standards required from the childminders setting.

All providers who apply and meet the national standards, legislation, the Council's procedural requirements as set out in the Invitation to Tender and accept the rates and contract terms set out by the Council shall be able to deliver funded provision through the Flexible Framework.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Description within the technical envelope / Weighting: 95

Price - Weighting: 5

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

Duration in months

This contract is subject to renewal

No

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) Description

II.2.1) Title

Applicants where the Setting has been registered with the Care Inspectorate for less than 12 months

Lot No

3

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85312110 - Child daycare services
- 80110000 - Pre-school education services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM93 - East Ayrshire and North Ayrshire mainland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Council has a statutory duty to make pre-school education available for eligible children under the Standards in Scotland's Schools Act 2000. The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and Statutory Guidance set out the increased entitlement of 600 hours, including the provision for eligible children and places a duty on the Council to

offer increased flexibility to parents as to where and how their child can access their Early Learning and Childcare entitlement. Scottish Government has since made a commitment to extend the entitlement to all eligible children to 1140 hours Early Learning and Childcare by 2020/2021 as set out in 'A Blueprint for 2020; Expansion

of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland' (2016).

The Funding Follows the Child approach places choice in parents' and carers' hands allowing them to access their child's funded entitlement with a range of ELC providers, therefore the Council are seeking to set up a Flexible Framework for the provision of early learning and childcare services under the Light Touch Rules contained within the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015. Lot 3 of

this Flexible Framework sets out the minimum standards required from the childminders setting.

All providers who apply and meet the national standards, legislation, the Council's procedural requirements as set out in the Invitation to Tender and accept the rates and contract terms set out by the Council shall be able to deliver funded provision through the Flexible

Framework.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Description within the technical envelope / Weighting: 95

Price - Weighting: 5

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

Duration in months

50

This contract is subject to renewal

No

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) Description

II.2.1) Title

Nursery Services (Including private and third sector settings)

Lot No

1

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 80110000 - Pre-school education services
- 85312110 - Child daycare services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM93 - East Ayrshire and North Ayrshire mainland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Council has a statutory duty to make pre-school education available for eligible children under the Standards in Scotland's Schools Act 2000. The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and Statutory Guidance set out the increased entitlement to 1140 hours for eligible children and places a duty on the Council to offer increased flexibility to parents as to where and how their child can access their Early Learning and Childcare entitlement. Scottish Government made a commitment to extend the entitlement to all eligible children to 1140 hours for Early Learning and Childcare by 2020/2021 as set out in 'A Blueprint for 2020; Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland' (2016).

The Funding Follows the Child approach places choice in parents' and carers' hands allowing them to access their child's funded entitlement with a range of ELC providers, therefore the Council are seeking to set up a Flexible Framework for the provision of early learning and childcare services under the Light Touch Rules contained within the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015. Lot 1 of this Flexible Framework sets out the

minimum standards required from the private, voluntary and independent setting.

All providers who apply and meet the national standards, legislation, the Council's procedural requirements as set out in the Invitation to Tender and accept the rates and contract terms set out by the Council shall be accepted to deliver funded provision through the Flexible Framework.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Description within the technical envelope / Weighting: 95

Price - Weighting: 5

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

Duration in months

50

This contract is subject to renewal

No

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

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions for participation

III.1.1) Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers

List and brief description of conditions

The Application is split into Part A and Part B. Part A is the "Applicant Information and Contractual Requirements" where Applicants must submit information which demonstrates their ability to meet the minimum contractual requirements. These requirements will include: Information concerning the Applicant, Form of Participation & Reliance on Capacity of other Entities; Mandatory and Discretionary Exclusions; Insurances; Police Checks; Care Inspectorate and Setting Information; Acceptance of Sustainable Rate & Support Package; Child Protection; Food Hygiene/Food Safety; Health and Safety; Representatives of the Applicant.

Part B is the "National Standard Criteria" section, where applicants must submit evidence which demonstrates and offers assurance that the Applicant meets the National Standard criteria. The National Standard criteria can be found

at: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/funding-follows-child-national-standard-early-learning-childcare-providers-principles-practice/>

III.2) Conditions related to the contract

III.2.2) Contract performance conditions

Contract performance conditions are included within the tender documentation

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

In the case of framework agreements, provide justification for any duration exceeding 4 years:

Framework will be awarded for a maximum period of 5 years, to ensure continuity of provider availability for parents and carers.

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.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

Date

19 April 2021

Local time

12:00pm

IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted

English

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

19 April 2021

Local time

12:00pm

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.2) Information about electronic workflows

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

VI.3) Additional information

Further entry points to the Framework will be permitted every 6 months for new entrants and any Tenderer who were not awarded to the initial Framework entry point. The same Requirements will apply.

The buyer is using PCS-Tender to conduct this ITT exercise. The Project code is 18133. For more information see:

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

The Contracting Authority does not intend to include a sub-contract clause as part of community benefits (as per Section 25 of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014) in this contract for the following reason:

The framework has been divided into lots to support SMEs to gain access to opportunities through the flexible framework. The nature of the services delivered are unlikely to be delivered through sub-contractors and therefore a sub-contract clause is not suitable for this type of services framework.

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

The Flexible Framework does not provide a guarantee of work, therefore community benefits are not being made mandatory within the

tender.

The award of a funded placement is dictated by parental choice therefore no work is

guaranteed.

The buyer is using PCS-Tender to conduct this ITT exercise. The Project code is 18133.
For more information see:

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

(SC Ref:647408)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Kilmarnock Sheriff Court

Sheriff Court House, St Marnock Street

KILMARNOCK

KA1 1ED

Country

United Kingdom