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Future opportunity

## **Provider of a set of online resources for Designated Safeguarding Leads**

DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice reference: 2021/S 000-005548

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

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

DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION

Sanctuary Building, Great Smith Street

London

SW1P3BT

#### **Contact**

Kathryn Farquhar

#### **Email**

[kathryn.farquhar@education.gov.uk](mailto:kathryn.farquhar@education.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 7557603207

**Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education>

**I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

**I.5) Main activity**

Education

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**Section II: Object****II.1) Scope of the procurement****II.1.1) Title**

Provider of a set of online resources for Designated Safeguarding Leads

Reference number

5318

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 80000000 - Education and training services

### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

### **II.1.4) Short description**

The Department for Education are seeking Expressions of Interest with regards to the provision of a set of online resources for Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) through supplier engagement sessions and a Market Engagement Questionnaire.

The Department has recently consulted on changes to the outline of the DSL role - as set out in Annex C of the proposed Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) statutory guidance. The proposed changes outline the DSL's role in promoting the educational outcomes of children who have or have needed a social worker and clarify the type of additional support such children may need.

We are exploring procuring a service to develop a set of online resources (an 'online toolkit') to support DSLs with promoting the educational outcomes of children who have or have needed a social worker and implementing the proposed changes.

The toolkit will be hosted on existing DfE content pages on .GOV.UK.

### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

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

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

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

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) has lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection. They play a critical role in the lives of children who have or have needed a social worker both by safeguarding them and supporting their wider welfare.

The Department has recently consulted on changes to the outline of the DSL role - as set out in Annex C of the proposed Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) statutory guidance. The proposed changes outline the DSL's role in promoting the educational outcomes of children who have or have needed a social worker and clarify the type of additional support such children may need. This includes improving the visibility of this group and supporting staff to improve their engagement with learning. These changes are grounded in the findings of the Children in Need Review.

We are looking to procure a supplier to develop a set of online resources (an 'online toolkit') to support DSLs with implementing these changes. The toolkit will be hosted on existing DfE content pages on .GOV.UK.

This proposal is subject to the outcome of the consultation which closed on 4 March. The Government response to the consultation will be published within the next few months and prior to any contract beginning.

Aims of the toolkit:

The aims of the toolkit are to :

- Explain the reasoning for the proposed changes and connect them to DSLs' existing duties and understanding;
- Provide content to aid in promoting the educational outcomes of children who have or have needed a social worker.

Key deliverable stages (approximate):

Late June Contract commences

July User research and stakeholder engagement commences.

August Analysis of existing resources and research and development into user-friendly and accessible resources.

September Quality-assuring of additional good practice examples sought; drafting of resources.

October User research and stakeholder engagement concludes; toolkit finalised and prepared for publication; toolkit published.

Key criteria:

- User research skills

- User-centred design skills
- Knowledge and understanding of schools and children's services
- Digital skills
- Service design skills

In order to support the development and shaping of DfE's requirement, we will be holding supplier engagement sessions via Teams. This will take the format of 1-2-1 sessions with prospective suppliers in which we will work through a set of questions to gain further insight of the marketplace including opportunities and alternatives. To express your interest in this opportunity and sign up for our market engagement sessions that will be held on 25th March 2021, please contact [Kathryn.farquhar@education.gov.uk](mailto:Kathryn.farquhar@education.gov.uk) by midday 23th March 2021.

The presentation will be made available after the session and interested providers that are unable to attend a market engagement session are asked to express their interest and complete a Market Engagement Questionnaire, available at the link below, no later than 1200 on 1 April 2021.

Participation in this engagement exercise is not a mandatory requirement for participating in any potential future procurement. However, responses received will assist DfE assess the level of interest from the market, will be used to evidence a decision as to whether to undertake a competitive procurement and will be used to determine the most suitable route to market. CONFIRMATION OF YOUR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST AND A SUBMITTED MARKET ENGAGEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE IS THEREFORE IMPORTANT.

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

26 April 2021

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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: No

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

This Prior Information Notice is for information and engaging with the supply market only. It is not a binding statement of intent. The Authority reserves the right not to enter a formal procurement process and not award contract(s). The information contained in this notice, including information relating to the nature and scope of the authority's requirements, the service classification of this requirement from the list of CPV codes, is only indicative of the authority's current thinking and is neither exhaustive nor binding. The authority reserves the right at its absolute discretion to amend it at the time of issue of any further notices or at any other time.