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Planning

Commissioning Speech and Language service provision in Essex Youth Offending Service (Essex YOS)

Essex County Council

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-006222

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03adc8

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Essex County Council

County Hall, Market Road

Chelmsford

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Region code

UKH3 - Essex

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

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

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Commissioning Speech and Language service provision in Essex Youth Offending Service (Essex YOS)

Reference number

DN659032

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80000000 - Education and training services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Purpose. This PIN seeks agreement to award a contract provide Speech and Language Therapy provision to children and young people receiving support from Essex Youth Offending Service and to support staff with screening, assessment and intervention processes.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH3 - Essex

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

1. Purpose. This PIN seeks agreement to award a contract provide Speech and Language Therapy provision to children and young people receiving support from Essex Youth Offending Service and to support staff with screening, assessment and intervention processes.

2. Essex YOS seeks to commission 2 full time Band 7 Speech and Language Therapists to work directly in each locality Youth Offending Team (YOT) in Essex County (0.5 fulltime equivalent per YOT) for a period of 2 years 2023 – 2025.

3. Background: Essex YOS has for a number of years sought to secure speech and language services to be delivered as part of Essex YOS' assessment and intervention processes. The need for Speech and Language Therapy in justice settings across England and Wales is generally well researched and acknowledged:

“Young offenders with DLD are more than twice as likely to reoffend than their unaffected

offending peers. DLD is a powerful predictor of recidivism above and beyond other known risk factors”

Developmental language disorders and risk of recidivism among young offenders: Maxine Winstanley, Roger T. Webb, Gina Conti-Ramsden. First published: 14 July 2020
<https://acamh.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jcpp.13299>

“In a Youth Offending Service all new entrants to the Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme (ISSP) were screened and 65% (49) required speech and language therapy intervention. A significant number (20%) scored at the ‘severely delayed’ level on standardised assessment and 6% as ‘very severely delayed’.

Gregory, Bryan, 2009, in <https://www.rcslt.org/wp-content/uploads/media/Project/RCSLT/justice-evidence-base2017-1.pdf> 2017

The Youth Justice Board and the Government have also published joint guidance on delivering SLT services within YOTs:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/speech-language-and-communication-needs-in-the-youth-justice-system/practice-advice-speech-language-and-communication-needs-slc-in-the-youth-justice-system>

3.1 In England and Wales, Speech and Language Therapy services are now provided to more the two thirds of Youth Justice Services, with an increase seen in West Midlands and West of England YOTs where almost every service has SLTs directly available.

4. Roles and responsibilities: Lead contact management and service oversight to sit with Essex YOS ETE Manager / Head of Service and the provider’s senior officer

4.1 Employment, supervision and support: The provider would remain the employer, with post-holders accessing supervision and support through their own employer clinical supervision. Supervision of SLTs within Essex YOS will be on a matrix-management basis. Consideration around supervision and support included linking with EPs and YOT CAMHS workers (provided by NELFT).

4.2 Recruitment: all activities to be actions be the provider. Lack of recruitment should not impact on local SLT provision, and that the roles be considered a new positions in addition to local services.

5. Costs: Indicative costing is based on 2 full time positions and is as follows:

5.1 1x Band 7 Clinician £67,319 (includes 5% HCA, Non-Pay of £1,700 Estates and Overheads)

5.3 Start-up costs £5,000

5.3 Total for 2 x band 7 clinicians £139,638 pa

5.4 Payment: A re-charge / invoice will be arranged with Essex County Council / Essex YOS and the provider.

6. Key activities to include

- the development and implementation of effective screening of SLCNs to augment AssetPlus (the Youth Justice Board-approved assessment tool)
- awareness-raising of SLCN / delivery training around SLCN
- case consultation with Essex YOS case managers on needs identification, assessment formulation and intervention planning
- contributing to reports for court
- working 1 to 1 with a specific, limited number of young people
- providing information, advice and guidance to parents/carers, schools and professionals

7. Outcomes: Key outcomes would include children and young people's feedback and YOS case manager feedback.

7.1 An assessed reduction of risk of recidivism may also be considered. Recidivism could also be considered over a longer period of time, given the complexities of measuring recidivism in the short term.

8. Option to extend: by agreement between Essex County Council, Essex YOS and the provider

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

30 April 2023

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