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Planning

## **Independent Fostering**

Hertfordshire County Council  
Central Bedfordshire Council  
Bedford Borough Council  
Luton Council

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-006298

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-043d3f

Published 27 February 2024, 4:09pm

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

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

Hertfordshire County Council

PEGS LANE

HERTFORD

SG138DQ

#### **Email**

[strategic.procurement@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:strategic.procurement@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKH23 - Hertfordshire

**Justification for not providing organisation identifier**

Not on any register

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

**I.1) Name and addresses**

Central Bedfordshire Council

Chicksands, Shefford

**Email**

[shelley.cummings@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:shelley.cummings@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

**Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKH2 - Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire

**Justification for not providing organisation identifier**

Not on any register

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

**I.1) Name and addresses**

Bedford Borough Council

Bedford

**Email**

[shelley.cummings@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:shelley.cummings@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

**Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKH24 - Bedford

**Justification for not providing organisation identifier**

Not on any register

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

**I.1) Name and addresses**

Luton Council

Luton

**Email**

[shelley.cummings@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:shelley.cummings@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

**Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKH21 - Luton

**Justification for not providing organisation identifier**

Not on any register

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://m.luton.gov.uk/>

**I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract involves joint procurement

**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**

Independent Fostering

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 85300000 - Social work and related services

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

Independent Fostering Agency - Approved Provider List Opportunity

Hertfordshire County Council along with Central Bedfordshire Council, Bedford Borough Council and Luton Council as strategic partners, will be opening up an opportunity for

IFAs to join their Approved Provider List (APL) when this is recommissioned in 2045/25 and be part of a committed and trusted suite of providers that offer homes to our looked after children.

We are looking to invite applications in Autumn of 2024 and are currently in the process of consulting internal stakeholders, agencies and children on a remodelled specification.

We would like to invite interested providers to a virtual Provider Engagement Event on Tuesday 19th March at 2pm - 3pm.

## Agenda

- Needs across the area
- Sharing of the draft specification for comment or feedback
- Opportunity for providers to give their views, feedback and to ask questions around joining an Approved Provider List

Please contact Shelley Cummings at [shelley.cummings@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:shelley.cummings@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) to confirm your attendance or with any queries. An MS Teams link will be forwarded to all those who confirm attendance.

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- UKH2 - Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire

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

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

1 September 2024

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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**

The Council's will consider the feedback received to help inform options and further decision making. For the avoidance of doubt, this stage of the project is not part of a formal procurement process and the Council's are not committing, at this stage, to carrying out such a process.

Participation or non-participation in the PPME shall not prevent any supplier participating in a potential future procurement, nor is it intended that any information supplied as part of the PPME shall place any supplier at an advantage in a potential procurement process.

Participation in this event will be at each organisation's own cost. No expense in responding to this market engagement will be reimbursed by the Councils.