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Planning

## **Soft Market Testing Worcester Bike Share Scheme**

Worcester City Council

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-007896

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03b40b

Published 17 March 2023, 4:13pm

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

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

Worcester City Council

The Guildhall, High Street

Worcester

WR1 2EY

#### **Email**

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

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKG12 - Worcestershire

#### **Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.worcester.gov.uk](http://www.worcester.gov.uk)

### **I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://procontract.due-north.com>

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**

Soft Market Testing Worcester Bike Share Scheme

Reference number

DN661523

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 34422000 - Cycles with auxiliary motors

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

Supplies

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

Following Worcester's successful award of grant funding from the Towns Fund, Worcester City Council is seeking to develop a bike share scheme to support access to bicycles across the City, including city centre, leisure, employment and education destinations and residential areas for residents and visitors within Worcester.

To support this, the Council is issuing a Prior Information Notice (PIN) as a Request For Information (RFI) to gather market intelligence and information, to gain a better understanding of the capacity and appetite of the market in delivering the proposed provision and to alert the market to a possible future tender opportunity.

The PIN invites Economic Operators to express an interest in this RFI exercise only. The RFI is not an invitation to tender, pre-qualification or selection process. This PIN/RFI is intended as an awareness, communication, and information gathering exercise. An expression of interest is no indication of a commitment to participate in the RFI process. No preferential or special status will be gained by Economic Operators who express an interest in this RFI, complete the RFI or express an interest in taking part in further soft market engagement.

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

### **II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- UKG12 - Worcestershire

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

Following Worcester's successful award of grant funding from the Towns Fund, Worcester City Council is seeking to develop a bike share scheme to support access to bicycles across the City, including city centre, leisure, employment and education destinations and residential areas for residents and visitors within Worcester.

This bike share scheme (electric and pedal) will open up cycling to more residents and visitors. By providing a bike share scheme this project will encourage the take up of cycling. It will reduce financial barriers to access and enable users to try out solutions such as e bikes without the up-front financial commitment.

Worcester is a cathedral city located on the picturesque River Severn with a high-quality historic town centre and a population over 100,000. The Council has an ambition to increase the number of people using active modes which may include people visiting for

leisure and tourism as well as residents in more deprived areas of Worcester. These aims sit alongside a broader aim to create “levelling up” opportunities for our communities and contributing positively towards a sustainable environment that will provide positive health and wellbeing outcomes for our residents.

As the project delivery team for the bike share scheme develops their ideas, it is recognised that there is a mixed picture of success with similar schemes around the UK. This ‘soft market testing’ exercise is being undertaken to ensure that operators, recognised to be experts on the delivery and sustainability of bike share schemes, are able to contribute their expertise to help shape the design of the scheme. The project delivery team values your input into the detailed design of the scheme, what you think will work and what we could do to ensure long term sustainability.

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

The Council are using the e-procurement portal known as the Proactis Pro-Contract portal <https://procontract.due-north.com> to conduct this procurement exercise.

To gain access to the procurement documents, contractors will need to register their company details at the above website (there is no charge for this). Once registered, contractors will be emailed a log-in and password which will allow them to gain access to the procurement documents. Contractors will need to search for the invitation under Worcester City Council and then electronically submit an expression of interest and follow the online instructions to view the procurement documents.

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

12 May 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: No