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Tender

Independent Adoption Support Services

Kent County Council

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-011361

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03c255

Published 20 April 2023, 1:56pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Kent County Council

Sessions House

Maidstone

ME14 1XQ

Contact

Ms Madeline Bishop

Email

madeline.bishop@kent.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 3000415852

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKJ4 - Kent

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

<http://www.kent.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/Advert/Index?advertId=44babfbf-75df-ed11-8121-005056b64545>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://procontract.due-north.com/Advert/Index?advertId=44babfbf-75df-ed11-8121-005056b64545>

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

Independent Adoption Support Services

Reference number

DN654291

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85300000 - Social work and related services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

APSE seeks to commission independent adoption support services which provides support for those affected by adoption by recognising that its effects extend to the entire family from the adoptee, adoptive families and birth families and acknowledging that its impact can last a lifetime.

APSE will fulfil its statutory requirements by:

1. Ensuring the provision of a high-quality adoption service which guarantees the best possible standards of care, safety and protection for children or young people who are looked after and who need adoptive placements
2. Ensuring that all those whose lives have been affected by adoption are helped to identify and receive appropriate services
3. Working in partnership with adoptive families and other agencies ensuring the service is based on statutory requirements and good practice within the principles of value for money for the agency.

These independent adoption support services are for those affected by adoption, specifically for the following:

- Support for birth parents

- Access to information and intermediary services for adult adoptees and birth relatives
- Staying in Touch (Contact) Services for adopted children.

The services to be delivered comprise of 4 distinct elements with each underpinned by a legislative framework:

A. An independent support service to Birth Parents

The provision of a support and counselling service to birth parents prior to an adoption taking place where a child is (or children are) in care and looked after by the local authority and for whom adoption has been identified as the plan.

B. An access to Birth Records and intermediary service for Adult Adoptees

This service assists adopted persons, either adopted through the local authority or who are resident within the areas covered by Adoption Partnership South East (APSE), and who are aged 18 years and over, to obtain information in relation to their adoption, and to facilitate contact between such persons and their adult birth relatives.

C. Access to information and an intermediary service for Birth Relatives and those with a Prescribed relationship

To provide access to non-identifying information regarding the adoption, advice and support to birth relatives aged 18 years and over, and those with a prescribed relationship who require intermediary services, when the adoptee has reached age 18 years and over.

D. Staying in Touch (Contact Services - Direct and Indirect)

The provision of a contact service for children under the age of 18 years who have been adopted and have contact with their birth relatives. The contact services include both an indirect letterbox service and a direct contact service (face to face).

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ4 - Kent

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Service A: An independent support service to Birth Parents

A maximum of 100 new referrals per year (eg every 12 month period from contract commencement). This total does not include existing cases being worked which may need to be handed over as part of any mobilisation of the contract.

Service B: An access to Birth Records and intermediary service for Adult Adoptees

A maximum of 150 new referrals per year (eg every 12-month period from contract commencement). This total does not include existing cases being worked which may need to be handed over as part of any mobilisation of the contract.

Service C: Access to information and an intermediary service for Birth Relatives and those with a Prescribed relationship

A maximum of 60 referrals per year for Intermediary Services for birth relatives (eg every 12 month period from contract commencement). This total does not include existing cases being worked which may need to be handed over as part of any mobilisation of the contract.

Service D: Staying In Touch (Direct Contact) 45 Staying in Touch (direct contact) cases per year for adopted children

Service D: Staying In Touch (Indirect Contact) 1850 individual children as active indirect Staying in Touch (contact) cases.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

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

Duration in months

96

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 IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

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 May 2023

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 May 2023

Local time

12:00pm

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Kent County Council

Maidstone

Country

United Kingdom