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Contract

SC20032 South East Business Boost II

Kent County Council

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-012520

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02b85a

Published 4 June 2021, 7:49am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Kent County Council

County Hall

Maidstone

ME14 1XQ

Contact

Mrs Kelly Roberts

Email

kelly.roberts@kent.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 3000416617

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKJ4 - Kent

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

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

SC20032 South East Business Boost II

Reference number

DN508876

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79400000 - Business and management consultancy and related services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Growth Hubs are locally based, Government-backed services linked to the national business support helpline.

They enable businesses to access local and national business support. Government funding for Growth Hubs is

made available via the 39 Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs). The South East Local Enterprise Partnership

(SELEP) covers Kent and Medway, Essex, Southend, Thurrock and East Sussex. It is the largest LEP in

England. The SELEP (via Essex County Council as its accountable body) receives funding from Government

for a Growth Hub. The SELEP operates a federal model, with local partnerships for each economic area within

the LEP. For Kent and Medway, this is the Kent and Medway Economic Partnership (KMEP). The Growth Hub

for the SELEP area reflects this federal model, with separately procured and managed services in Kent and

Medway, Essex and East Sussex.

The current Kent and Medway Growth Hub service can be accessed at www.kentandmedwaygrowthhub.org.uk

The core Growth Hub service is enhanced through a SELEP-wide South East Business Boost (SEBB) ERDF

(European Regional Development Fund) programme, led by Southend Borough Council the lead accountable

body. This service provides additional activities beyond what can be provided through the BEIS funding and

delivers an offer that compliments and enhances the existing 'core' Growth Hub programme.

Kent County Council procured a SEBBII service which will provide of one to one and one to many

interactions that create growth and facilitate innovation within local companies. The programmes are aimed

at pre-start, start-up and Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) who wish to scale up production to

increase turnover. The service also offers 'Growth Grant' programme designed to facilitate growth and increase

productivity within local companies.

The contract duration is for 23 months, from June 2021 to engage and support 262 SMEs to enable them to increase turnover, improve productivity, generate new products /services, and create jobs.

Key activities include:

- Marketing and Engagement of the service to eligible businesses
- Productivity and competitiveness direct one to one business support for high potential businesses.
- Enterprise and Entrepreneurship Support for start-ups and new businesses.

- Promotion and management of Business Grants Programme with eligible businesses.
- Development of strategic partnerships and robust referral networks
- Data collection, verification and reporting in line with ERDF requirements.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £665,902

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ4 - Kent

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The scope of the SEBBII service is to provide of one to one and one to many interactions that create growth and facilitate innovation within local companies. The programmes are aimed at pre-start, start-up and Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) who wish to scale up production to increase turnover. The service also offers 'Growth Grant' programme designed to facilitate growth and increase productivity within local companies.

The contract duration will be from June 2021 for 23 months to engage and support 262

SMEs to enable them to increase turnover, improve productivity, generate new products /services, and create

jobs.

Key activities include:

- Marketing and Engagement of the service to eligible businesses
- Productivity and competitiveness direct one to one business support for high potential businesses.
- Enterprise and Entrepreneurship Support for start-ups and new businesses.

- Promotion and management of Business Grants Programme with eligible businesses.
- Development of strategic partnerships and robust referral networks
- Data collection, verification and reporting in line with ERDF requirements.

In the event that additional funding for this service is granted to the Council to continue to deliver the SEBB

Services consisting of the repetition of similar services entrusted to the Supplier under this Contract after 31

March 2023, the Council reserves the right to procure the new services via the negotiated procedure without

prior publication in accordance with Regulation 32(9) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, the conditions

for which will be as per the conditions of the grant funding

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality = lowest price per quality point score (i.e. Cost divided by quality score) / Weighting: 100

Cost criterion - Name: Cost = lowest price per quality point score (i.e. Cost divided by quality score) / Weighting: 100

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: Yes

Identification of the project

European Regional Development Fund

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Competitive procedure with negotiation

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2020/S 220-541874](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

1

Title

South East Business Boost II

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

9 April 2021

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 3

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

KENT INVICTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INDUSTRY & ENTERPRISE LTD

Ashford Business Point, Waterbrook Avenue, Sevington

Ashford

TN24 0LH

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ4 - Kent

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £710,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £665,902

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Kent County Council

County Road

Maidstone

ME14 1XQ

Country

United Kingdom

