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Planning

***PRE MARKET ENGAGEMENT *Assessed and Supported Year in Employment (ASYE) programme**

Department for Education

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-014264

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02bf2b

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Department for Education

Sanctuary Buildings, 20, Great Smith Street

London

SW1P 3BT

Email

DfE.ASYE@education.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 00000000

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKI - London

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.gov.uk/dfe

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

*PRE MARKET ENGAGEMENT *Assessed and Supported Year in Employment (ASYE) programme

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85300000 - Social work and related services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Current contract for ASYE is due to expire at the end of March 2022. The existing contract has a max annual value of £6,493,335 (£5, 780,000 grant funding payments to LAs; £713,535 programme management)

The Department is holding an early market engagement event for a possible future opportunity on Wednesday 7 July 2021 at 2pm – 4.15pm via Microsoft Teams to enable interested suppliers to

- Hear about the potential opportunity
- Have a clear understanding of the outcomes the Department would require in any re-procurement
- Help develop any future requirement.

All organisations wishing to attend the event and /or follow up 1:1 session (8th/9th July) should email DfE.ASYE@education.gov.uk no later than 12pm 6 July providing company details and the name of the person(s) attending, job role(s), email address that will be used to access the event link. Please note two individuals per organisation can attend the event. Microsoft Teams invitations will be sent after 12pm 6 July

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 75100000 - Administration services
- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 80400000 - Adult and other education services
- 80500000 - Training services
- 85000000 - Health and social work services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKC - North East (England)
- UKD - North West (England)
- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber
- UKF - East Midlands (England)
- UKG - West Midlands (England)
- UKH - East of England
- UKI - London
- UKJ - South East (England)
- UKK - South West (England)

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The ASYE Programme composes of two elements:

- ASYE Programme
- ASYE Pathway to NAAS

Background

ASYE programme:

ASYE programme first launched in September 2012 and is an important part of the Department's children's social care workforce strategy.. ASYE is an employer-led, induction programme, helping newly qualified Social Workers (NQSWs) in their first year of employment to develop their skills, knowledge and capability to transition into frontline practice. It is key to growing confidence amongst NQSWs and influences the quality of support and service provided to vulnerable children and their families.

The programme enables employers to provide bespoke support to their NQSWs which is fundamental to continuing to raise the quality of frontline practice and to improving social worker retention. The funding enables further professional development to take place and requires employers to meet expectations around induction and support for newly qualified staff.

More information on the programme can be found on the GOV.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/assessed-and-supported-year-in-employment-asye>

Pathway to NAAS:

The National Assessment and Accreditation System (NAAS) was launched in July 2018 and enables child and family social workers to develop their skills and knowledge to improve outcomes for children and families. To do this, NAAS aims to:

- Provide social workers with a better understanding of their current level of knowledge and skill and highlight areas for further development. Support employers to raise the national standard and consistency of practice.
- Ensure employers better understand their workforce development needs through the practice endorsement processes including supervision, performance management and learning and development.

In February 2020, the Department launched a funded pathway programme that for the first time connected ASYE to NAAS. The ASYE pathway to NAAS is seen as a logical progression from qualifying as a social worker and the first year of employment, to practice endorsement and accreditation at Accredited Child and Family Practitioner (ACFP) level. The pathway is also seen as a significant part of embedding the Post-Qualifying Standards into social workers' career pathways – given that ASYE and NAAS are both assessed against the PQS.

More information on NAAS can be found on the GOV.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-assessment-and-accreditation-system-naas>

The current contractor is required to:

- Work directly with Local Authorities, ASYE Leads and other organisations such as children's trusts to distribute and administer Departmental funding.
- Develop and enhance the effectiveness of the ASYE programme.
- Manage the operational delivery of ASYE and ASYE Pathway to NAAS
- Support employers
- Engage with social work sector.
- Assure effective local delivery

Additional Early Market Engagement Event

Current contracts for Child and Family Social Worker CPD leadership programmes are due to expire end of March 2022. Existing contracts have a max annual value of £2,592,000

The Department is holding an early market engagement event for a possible future opportunity on Tuesday 6 July 2021 12.30pm – 2.45pm via Microsoft Teams to enable interested suppliers to

- Hear about the potential opportunity for design, delivery, and management of a leadership programme including new Leadership programmes
- Have a clear understanding of the outcomes required in any re-procurement
- Help develop any future requirement.

All organisations wishing to attend the event and /or follow up 1:1 session (7th/8th/9th July) (should email DfE.CFSWLEADERSHIP@education.gov.uk no later than 12pm 5 July providing company details and name of the person(s) attending, job role(s), email address that will be used to access the event link. Please note two individuals per organisation can attend the event. Microsoft Teams invitations will be sent after 12pm on 5 July.

II.2.14) Additional information

At this stage, this is purely a market engagement exercise, presentations, Q&As will be made available for anyone unable to attend on the day. Any subsequent procurement will be advertised separately and all organisations wanting to participate will need to respond to the contract notice advertising the procurement when this is published. DfE welcomes and encourages interest from SME's, VCSEs.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

1 October 2021

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