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Planning

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Advisors

Department for Education

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-014555

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03ce6a

Published 22 May 2023, 5:29pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Department for Education

Sanctuary Buildings, 20, Great Smith Street

London

SW1P 3BT

Contact

SEND Policy and Operations Team

Email

Coral.Darling@education.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 000000000

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

National registration number

00000000

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/about/procurement>

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Advisors

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80000000 - Education and training services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The purpose of this early engagement notice is to notify the market of a forthcoming market engagement event relating to a potential procurement of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Advisers. The department will be undertaking an online event on 6 June 2023 for interested suppliers.

The Department for Education (DfE) is exploring opportunities to procure expert advisers in SEND who will help to provide external technical expertise to support local area SEND improvement. The DfE Vulnerable Children's Unit will deploy SEND Advisers into local areas in need of support. These advisers will be experienced leaders who use their expertise to assist senior leaders and SEND management teams in local areas to address areas of weakness. The procurement will look to appoint Advisers across a wide range of skills encompassing all aspects of the SEND system.

SEND Advisers will be primarily selected via open competition from the Dynamic Procurement System. To allow for a more bespoke process and be able to select the most suitable adviser for the individual needs of the local authority, the DfE will use a preferred supplier list that ranks a pool of advisers based on an overall criteria score. DfE are then able to directly award individual contracts to the highest ranked available supplier on the list.

The Department will be undertaking a market engagement webinar event on the 6 June at 10am. We would like to invite you to the webinar, where we will focus on a range of aspects including potential requirements and roles. It is anticipated that the event will last 45 minutes. The objectives of the event will be to:

- Give you an understanding of the aim of the potential procurement.

- Give you the opportunity to provide feedback.

Please note that a maximum of two people from each organisation can attend the event.

We may record all questions asked, as well as answers given, and make these publicly available as reference for all interested parties.

If the procurement exercise goes ahead, it is expected to open in July 2023 with contracts being awarded in September 2023. More information on the potential procurement process will be provided following this market engagement activity.

More information on the procurement process will be provided following market engagement activity. This notice is for information only and is not a call for competition. The Department reserves the right not to enter a formal procurement process and not award contracts. Accordingly, the Authority will not be liable for any bid cost, expenditure, work or effort incurred by a provider in acting on the basis of this PIN. All future information will be issued to potential providers via the DfE eTendering Portal.

Kind regards

SEND Policy and Operations Team

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 80000000 - Education and training 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

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Kind regards

SEND Policy and Operations Team

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

22 May 2023

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