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Tender

## **Employability Support Services - Five Stage Pipeline Approach**

Falkirk Council

F21: Social and other specific services – public contracts

Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-015053

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03cfb8

Published 26 May 2023, 11:02am

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

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

Falkirk Council

Abbotsford House, David's Loan

Falkirk

FK2 7YZ

#### **Email**

[cpu@falkirk.gov.uk](mailto:cpu@falkirk.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1324506566

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKM76 - Falkirk

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

Buyer's address

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00184](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00184)

**I.3) Communication**

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

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

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

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

**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**

Employability Support Services - Five Stage Pipeline Approach

Reference number

PS/214/23

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

- 80530000 - Vocational training services

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

Services

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

Falkirk Council has adopted the national five stage employability pipeline for the organisation, commissioning, management and delivery of employability services to support and assist individuals in their journey towards and into employment. Services will be tailored to ensure a person centred approach with a coherent range of specialist support that responds flexibly and effectively to meet the needs of individuals and their employers.

Falkirk Council will be seeking to procure services from providers who are experienced in delivering to individuals who are disadvantaged and excluded from participating in the labour market, who face a range of barriers to employment and require additional support in order to obtain, sustain and progress in employment. Falkirk Council will be seeking a range of services which support a person centred, needs based approach which treats individuals with dignity and respect at all times. (ctd in Additional Information)

### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £4,000,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

Engagement and Barrier Removal

Lot No

1

## **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 80500000 - Training services
- 80510000 - Specialist training services
- 80530000 - Vocational training services
- 80570000 - Personal development training services
- 80400000 - Adult and other education services

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

NUTS codes

- UKM76 - Falkirk

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

The framework recognises the need to better support disadvantaged groups to move towards and into employment. This has to start with

greater focus on early engagement, assessment of support needs and effective action planning to more effectively tackle barriers that are

preventing individuals from participating in the labour market.

Working in partnership we are seeking a range of diverse interventions to effectively engage with those furthest from the labour market,

supporting individuals with multiple and often complex support needs. Services being procured will include motivation, confidence,

personal development, one to one support, mentoring, group work, core skills, health, wellbeing and financial support interventions. It is

envisaged that some structured, accredited and project based activities will also be required. This Lot covers the spectrum of activities at

Stage 1 and 2 of the Employability Pipeline.

## **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £800,000

## **II.2.7) Duration of the contract or the framework agreement**

Duration in months

48

## **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

Vocational Training and Work Related Skills

Lot No

2

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 80500000 - Training services
- 80510000 - Specialist training services
- 80530000 - Vocational training services
- 80570000 - Personal development training services
- 80400000 - Adult and other education services

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

NUTS codes

- UKM76 - Falkirk

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

The focus of this Lot will be to improve the core, functional and vocational skills of individuals seeking to enter employment. The activities

within this lot will enable a structured approach to work experience enabling individuals to gain employability competencies and where

relevant occupationally focused certification. This Lot covers the spectrum of activities at Stage 3 and 4 of the Employability Pipeline and

will enable a tailored pathway to local labour market opportunities.

It is anticipated that the provision in this Lot will enable supported and sheltered work experience and where possible industry recognised

certification, pre apprenticeship programmes and a structured transitional pathway to sustainable employment. Job Search skills and agreed

elements of employer engagement, job brokerage may also be relevant within this Lot.

### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £2,400,000

### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract or the framework agreement**

Duration in months

48

### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

In Work Support and Work Based Qualifications

Lot No

3

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 80500000 - Training services
- 80510000 - Specialist training services
- 80530000 - Vocational training services

- 80570000 - Personal development training services
- 80400000 - Adult and other education services

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

NUTS codes

- UKM76 - Falkirk

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

This Lot reflects the increased need for in-work support to help enable previously unemployed people to sustain and progress in

employment once the initial transition has been made. It is also important to recognise that many individuals will enter this activity at Stage

5 of the Employability Pipeline having progressed from previous activities delivered at Lots 1 and 2 of the framework.

This lot includes the delivery of Vocational Qualifications, Modern Apprenticeships and other industry recognised training. The provision

of employer support, job carving, job coaching, health and safety, risk assessments, after care and other related assistance may also form

part of the in work support package to ensure the sustainability of progressions into employment.

### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £800,000

### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract or the framework agreement**

Duration in months

48

### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

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## **Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

### **III.1) Conditions for participation**

#### **III.1.4) Objective rules and criteria for participation**

List and brief description of rules and criteria

The bidder must be able to demonstrate to the Councils satisfaction that they are operating under the name and address stated in the submission.

Insurance levels – Employers Liability minimum 5million GBP unless exempt by law as per the guidelines provided by UK Government, Public Liability 2million GBP. These must be in place or a commitment to obtain as a condition to being awarded on to the framework.

Additional insurances / levels may be required for particular mini competitions and will be notified accordingly. For notice, and only where applicable, there may be a requirement for professional indemnity 1 million GBP and compulsory motor insurance which complies with and meets the UK legal minimum requirements

Any element of the framework may be opened to new participants at Falkirk Council's sole discretion.

Providers that are not excluded and can meet all compliances will be awarded to the framework.

### **III.2) Conditions related to the contract**

#### **III.2.2) Contract performance conditions**

Membership / accreditation / registration / professional qualifications are required to perform specific services. If these are not available then providers will not be asked to provide these services.

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Form of procedure**

Open procedure

#### **IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement**

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

#### **IV.1.10) Identification of the national rules applicable to the procedure**

Information about national procedures is available at:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2015/446/part/2/chapter/3/crossheading/social-and-other-specific-services/made>

#### **IV.1.11) Main features of the award procedure**

Responses to the questionnaire Schedule 2 will be used to determine who is allocated work either by direct award or through mini competition. Mini competitions will have selection / award criteria detailed for that specific requirement.

### **IV.2) Administrative information**

#### **IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

3 July 2023

Local time

11:00am

#### **IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.2) Information about electronic workflows**

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

### **VI.3) Additional information**

(ctd) Falkirk Council via its Employment and Training Unit will retain responsibility for the end to end provision overseeing the participant employability journey working with a range of delivery partners to enhance the capacity and variety of support available.

Some specialist provision will be required for individuals with learning disabilities across all employability support services and an inclusive approach to the design and delivery of provision is essential.

Economic operators may be excluded from this competition if they are in any of the situations referred to in regulation 58 of the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015.

The procurement exercise will be governed by Regulations 74, 75 & 76 of Public Contract (Scotland) Regulations 2015.

Reserve right to open Framework to new entrants at Falkirk Council sole discretion. New Entrants will be subject to the same requirements as detailed in this Contract Notice and Tender Documents. New Entrants can apply by making initial contact to [cpu@falkirk.gov.uk](mailto:cpu@falkirk.gov.uk).

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the Public Contracts Scotland Web Site at [https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search\\_Switch.aspx?ID=732833](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=732833).

The buyer has indicated that it will accept electronic responses to this notice via the Postbox facility. A user guide is available at [https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/sitehelp/help\\_guides.aspx](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/sitehelp/help_guides.aspx).

Suppliers are advised to allow adequate time for uploading documents and to dispatch the electronic response well in advance of the closing time to avoid any last minute problems.

The Contracting Authority does not intend to include a sub-contract clause as part of community benefits (as per Section 25 of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014) in this contract for the following reason:

These are services to the individual and Falkirk Council Employment & Training Unit is responsible for the services provided to the individual. The ETU manages the end to end Employability Pipeline Support and wants a direct relationship with the service provider delivering the specific service requirements to the individual.

Community benefits are included in this requirement. For more information see: <https://www.gov.scot/policies/public-sector-procurement/community-benefits-in-procurement/>

A summary of the expected community benefits has been provided as follows:

Community Benefits will be identified for each of the specific requirements that will be awarded via direct award or mini competition.

(SC Ref:732833)

#### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

##### **VI.4.1) Review body**

Court of Session

Edinburgh

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

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