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Tender

Aurora Academies Trust ~ Catering Tender

Aurora Academies Trust

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-017131

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03d6dc

Published 16 June 2023, 10:04am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Aurora Academies Trust

c/o Glenleigh Park Primary Academy, Gunter's Lane, Bexhill on Sea

East Sussex

TN39 4ED

Email

tenders@litmuspartnership.co.uk

Telephone

+44 1276673880

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKJ22 - East Sussex CC

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.auroraacademies.org/>

I.3) Communication

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

<https://litmustms.co.uk/respond/84FPUU2M4Z>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to 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

Aurora Academies Trust ~ Catering Tender

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 55524000 - School catering services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Aurora Academies Trust was established in 2012 and currently operates seven schools across East Sussex, Brighton & Hove, West Sussex and Surrey providing education to around 3,000 pupils.

Aurora is determined to provide the best possible standard of education to pupils in our nursery, primary and secondary academies across the south-east of England. We are determined that every child in our academies benefits from a challenging and knowledge rich curriculum that is expertly taught so that regardless of starting points, pupils are well equipped to be successful at the next stage of their education or transition to employment.

Please see the SQ document for more information.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £3,368,450

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ22 - East Sussex CC

Main site or place of performance

East Sussex CC

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Aurora Academies Trust was established in 2012 and currently operates seven schools across East Sussex, Brighton & Hove, West Sussex and Surrey providing education to around 3,000 pupils.

Aurora is determined to provide the best possible standard of education to pupils in our nursery, primary and secondary academies across the south-east of England. We are determined that every child in our academies benefits from a challenging and knowledge rich curriculum that is expertly taught so that regardless of starting points, pupils are well equipped to be successful at the next stage of their education or transition to employment.

Aurora schools are unique and serve their own communities. Thus, our schools keep their own name, choose their own uniform and logo and ensure that they serve the needs of the pupils and families who attend them.

However, because of the very collaborative manner in which our schools work together, best practice has emerged and so there are things that all of our schools do collectively. This is particularly true in relation to our reading curriculum and the work we have recently completed on the curriculum for foundation subjects.

Our schools promote equality and diversity and place great emphasis on teaching respect and tolerance of others' cultures and

beliefs. The six primary schools also all have an onsite nursery provision for around 200 pupils from ages 2-4, included in the numbers above.

*Westvale Park opened in September 2020 and will grow by 60 pupils each year, to 450 pupils by Sep 2026. Trust would look to incorporate any new schools joining within the contract period into this contract. The Trust is expecting to grow within the contract period and any new schools would be incorporated in the tender, depending on existing catering contracts.

Gatwick School is an All through primary school, with capacity for 420 primary children (age 4-11) and 600 secondary pupils (11 – 16)

The tender project is seeking to appoint a Contractor whose initiative and innovation will be welcomed for the provision of service within the existing facilities for the 3,000 pupils on roll and 430 teaching and support staff, with a focus on exciting new food concepts to satisfy a wide range of pupil tastes and dietary requirements.

The Trust would wish the successful contractor to review the current range of services offered and make recommendations accordingly to reflect any changes to cost of living, ensuring the menu offer is varied and food is good quality.

The contract being tendered is for three years in duration from 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2026 and will operate as a Guaranteed Performance Contract, with the successful Contractor offering the Trust a guaranteed return / cost per annum for the provision of catering services. Sovereignty of the cash tariff is to remain with Aurora Academies Trust for the duration of this contract.

The School year is based on a calendar of 195 days. Five days are used for Trust wide staff professional development and each school has up to a further five INSET days which means that School will be open to receive students for a minimum of 185 days.

The contract offered covers the scope for the provision of all catering services within the Trust, which currently includes morning break, lunch, hospitality and free issue requirements. Free School meals and hospitality will be charged based on consumption and at net food cost.

Whilst the Trust prioritises value for money as a key objective of the Competitive Tender Process, the Trust Board is not obliged to accept the lowest price and the tender will consider quality as part of the scoring process. Aurora Academies Trust expects the successful contractor to enable the continued development of catering through the provision of an innovative, healthy food service, with fresh, seasonal, locally sourced ingredients being prepared on-site. Please be advised that this contract will be let on a 3 + 2 years basis.

II.2.5) Award criteria

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

II.2.6) Estimated value

Value excluding VAT: £3,368,450

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

Start date

1 January 2024

End date

31 December 2028

This contract is subject to renewal

No

II.2.9) Information about the limits on the number of candidates to be invited

Envisaged minimum number: 5

Maximum number: 10

Objective criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates:

A minimum of 5 suppliers and a maximum of 10 suppliers will be taken forward to the tender stage of the process. Where less than 5 suppliers meet the minimum standards, only those that meet the minimum standards will be taken through to the tender stage. Where more than 5 suppliers meet the minimum standard, those suppliers with the highest scores will proceed to the tender stage.

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: Yes

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 III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions for participation

III.1.2) Economic and financial standing

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

III.1.3) Technical and professional ability

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Restricted procedure

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

Date

28 July 2023

Local time

12:00pm

IV.2.3) Estimated date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates

11 September 2023

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

English

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.3) Additional information

The contracting authority considers that this contract may be suitable for economic operators that are small or medium enterprises (SMEs). However, any selection of tenderers will be based solely on the criteria set out for the procurement. It will be the supplier's responsibility to obtain any necessary documents in order to submit a response by the closing date and time.

The contracting authority reserves the right not to award any or part of the contract which is the subject of this contract notice and reserves the right to terminate the procurement process at any time.

The contracting authority will not be liable for any costs incurred by those expressing an interest in tendering for this contract opportunity.

The contracting authority will consider variant bids, evaluating them (so far as the variant or the evaluation of the variant is in the opinion of the contracting authority practicable) on the same basis as a conforming bid, but shall not be obliged to accept any such bid in preference to a conforming bid even if the variant bid scores more highly. No variant will be considered unless the bidder simultaneously submits a conforming bid.

For more information about this opportunity, please visit the Delta eSourcing portal at:

<https://litmustms.co.uk/tenders/UK-UK-East-Sussex:-School-catering-services./84FPUU2M4Z>

To respond to this opportunity, please click here:

<https://litmustms.co.uk/respond/84FPUU2M4Z>

GO Reference: GO-2023616-PRO-23211993

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Aurora Academies Trust

East Sussex

TN39 4ED

Country

United Kingdom