

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/021739-2023>

Contract

Higher Education Provider for the Step Up To Social Work Programme

Wirral Borough Council

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-021739

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-03b505

Published 27 July 2023, 8:45am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Wirral Borough Council

Old Market House, 3rd Floor South Wing Hamilton Building

Birkenhead

CH41 5AL

Contact

Corporate Procurement

Email

tenders@wirral.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 1516662000

Fax

+44 1516663705

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKD6 - Cheshire

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

<http://www.wirral.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

Higher Education Provider for the Step Up To Social Work Programme

Reference number

DN658770

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80000000 - Education and training services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The Learn Together Partnership is seeking, through Wirral Borough Council, creative and innovative tenders for the effective delivery of the learning outcomes of the Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work. The successful tenderer will have current experience of delivering a Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work and is capable of delivering this programme in line with the 15 month timescales given above. A curriculum outline must be completed for the Post Graduate Diploma in Social Work must be completed by all tenderers.

Wirral act as the lead LA for the Learn Together Partnership (RP), we will be submitting our bid for cohort 8 of the Step Up To Social Work Programme, after 7 previous successful cohorts we have completed.

The Step Up to Social Work programme provides an accelerated entry route into social work for high-achieving graduates and career changers. The programme has successfully trained over 2000 social workers since 2010. Step Up to Social Work is delivered through the development of a work-based 14-month postgraduate diploma programme, led by groups of local authorities working in Regional Partnerships (RPs) who contract the learning element with Higher Education Institutes (HEIs). Award of the diploma enables candidates to apply for registration as a qualified social worker. The scheme targets high calibre individuals who already have experience of working with vulnerable children, young people or adults who want to train as social workers

We are looking for a HEI provider to deliver to academic aspect of the programme.

This contract will run year to year as the programme is only 15 months long, but we may wish to extend up to 5 years. Cohort 8 is due to begin January 2024 and will come to end in March 2025. If successful with future bids, we will also host cohort 9 which will run from January 2026 and end in March 2027.

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: £980,028

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKD6 - Cheshire
- UKD7 - Merseyside

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Learn Together Partnership is seeking, through Wirral Borough Council, creative and innovative tenders for the effective delivery of the learning outcomes of the Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work. The successful tenderer will have current experience of delivering a Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work and is capable of delivering this programme in line with the 15 month timescales given above. A curriculum outline must be completed for the Post Graduate Diploma in Social Work must be completed by all tenderers.

Wirral act as the lead LA for the Learn Together Partnership (RP), we will be submitting our bid for cohort 8 of the Step Up To Social Work Programme, after 7 previous successful cohorts we have completed.

The Step Up to Social Work programme provides an accelerated entry route into social work for high-achieving graduates and career changers. The programme has successfully trained over 2000 social workers since 2010. Step Up to Social Work is delivered through the development of a work-based 14-month postgraduate diploma programme, led by groups of local authorities working in Regional Partnerships (RPs) who contract the learning element with Higher Education Institutes (HEIs). Award of the diploma enables candidates to apply for registration as a qualified social worker. The scheme targets high calibre individuals who already have experience of working with vulnerable children,

young people or adults who want to train as social workers

We are looking for a HEI provider to deliver to academic aspect of the programme.

This contract will run year to year as the programme is only 15 months long, but we may wish to extend up to 5 years. Cohort 8 is due to begin January 2024 and will come to end in March 2025. If successful with future bids, we will also host cohort 9 which will run from January 2026 and end in March 2027.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 50

Price - Weighting: 50

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 IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2023/S 000-008304](#)

Section V. Award of contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

16 May 2023

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Edge Hill University

St Helens Road

Ormskirk

L39 4QP

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKD7 - Merseyside

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £980,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Royal Courts of Justice

London

Country

United Kingdom