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Planning

Child Vision Screening Soft Market Testing Exercise

Dudley MBC

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-022897

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-03ed81

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Dudley MBC

3-5 St James Road

Dudley

DY1 1HZ

Contact

Paschal Obidile

Email

Paschal.Obidile@dudley.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKG36 - Dudley

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.dudley.gov.uk

Buyer's address

www.blackcountrybusiness.co.uk

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

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Child Vision Screening Soft Market Testing Exercise

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85160000 - Optician services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Introduction: This questionnaire is part of a soft market testing exercise to inform future

commissioning arrangements and procurement of the Vision Screening Service for School Children Aged 4-5 Years Old within the Dudley borough. The purpose of this soft market testing exercise is to establish the extent of the demand in the market for the delivery of Vision Screening Service for School Children Aged 4-5 Years Old, to support development and refinement of the service specification as well as associated terms and conditions of the contract. We are seeking written responses to the questions set out in the questionnaire below. Whilst there is no obligation to answer all questions and all answers are for information purposes only, we would encourage your cooperation to respond to as many of the questions as possible. The deadline for the submission of your completed questionnaires is Friday 11th August 2023

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85160000 - Optician services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKG36 - Dudley

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Following the receipt of completed questionnaires, the Council may seek to follow up and to invite you to participate in virtual discussion. The service: The service to be commissioned is vision screening in 4–5-year-old children to detect reduced or abnormal vision in one or both eyes; primarily to detect amblyopia, a form of abnormal vision system development, including strabismus and refractive error. Early detection of amblyopia may result in the avoidance of permanent visual impairments by allowing early intervention. The direct health outcome is the optimal development of vision for children with amblyopia though prompt access to treatment. The target population is 4–5-year-old primary school entrant children across Dudley borough. There is estimated to be approximately 4000 children in this age group per academic year. The Service operates within the boundaries of Dudley Council and therefore will include children whose family live outside the Dudley area, but the child attends a school within Dudley. This includes children attending mainstream and special schools, independent schools and children who are not in education, including those electively home educated. The service also includes targeted screening for preschool children who are referred for assessment via their Health Visitor. Safeguarding needs would always override any boundary discrepancy if services were

needed. Exclusion Screening will not be delivered to any child where:

- They are already receiving care from specialist optometry services.
- Parent / carer consent is not provided.

This service should be administered by Orthoptists in schools across Dudley, in line with UKNSC recommendations. Providers must ensure that those administering the screening must meet the training requirements and standards required. Children with a low visual acuity in one or both eyes will be referred along the pathway for further assessment; in addition, the result of the screening test will be communicated with the child's parent/carer/guardian. Further guidance can be found on <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-vision-screening>

Costs: The total financial envelope for this is likely to be in the region of £25,000 – £35,000 per annum inclusive of uplifts and management costs.

Soft Market Testing Questionnaire

Organisation details

Name of organisation	Contact name	Position	Address	Post code	Telephone	Email
Do you currently have a presence / service in Dudley or neighbouring local authority? Please note that where a word count applies to your answers, information given beyond this word count may not be considered. Please be as concise as you can in your responses						

1) Based on the information provided, how likely is it that your organisation would bid for the service? please select one. V. Unlikely, Unlikely, Likely, Very Likely

Where you have answered very unlikely or unlikely for question 1, please detail your reasons why: (Word count maximum 250 words)

2. With factors such as premises, resources and workforce factored please select all the contract lengths your organisation would consider if bidding for this service. Select all that apply

Contract term(with possible extensions) 2yr , 3yr, 4yr

Of the options above in question 2, which would be your preferred contract length and please provide rationale: (Word count maximum 250 words)

3. Do you foresee any challenges/areas of concern with establishing a service like this across the borough? Please provide further information (word count 250 words)

4. Do you feel a 3-month mobilisation period between the contract award and commencement date (currently proposed as 1st Jan 2024) would be sufficient? Yes/No

5. What service levels and KPI would you propose for the provision of this service to maximise outcomes? word count 250

Please note that any queries or questions of clarification relating to this soft market testing questionnaire must be submitted through the portal. To be completed by 11/08/23

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

4 August 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

