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Planning

## **Independent Fostering Framework Agreement for Kent County Council and Medway Council**

Kent County Council  
Medway Council

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-023218

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02e225

Published 17 September 2021, 3:37pm

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

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

Kent County Council

Sessions House

Maidstone

ME14 1XQ

#### **Email**

[ciccommissioning@kent.gov.uk](mailto:ciccommissioning@kent.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **NUTS code**

UKJ4 - Kent

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

**I.1) Name and addresses**

Medway Council

Gun Wharf, Dock Road

Chatham

ME4 4TR

**Email**

[james.welch@medway.gov.uk](mailto:james.welch@medway.gov.uk)

**Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKJ41 - Medway

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.medway.gov.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.medway.gov.uk/>

**I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract involves joint procurement

### **I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

### **I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Regional or local authority

### **I.5) Main activity**

Social protection

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Independent Fostering Framework Agreement for Kent County Council and Medway Council

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

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

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

Services

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

Kent County Council and Medway Council currently has a Framework Agreement in place for the provision of fostering placements from Independent Fostering Providers (IFPs) which is due to expire. Both Councils will be seeking to re-tender a joint framework with an anticipated start date of 1st April 2022.

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

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

### **II.2) Description**

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

Lot No

TBC

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

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

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

NUTS codes

- UKJ4 - Kent

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

The purpose of this notice is to ensure that IFP's are aware and can prepare for this upcoming opportunity.

Independent Fostering Placements

It is recognised that a child's needs are best met by a nurturing family, and we are committed to placing children who are not able to remain within their own family in an appropriate alternative family placement wherever possible.

There is a commitment to place children and young people with local foster families in order to allow them to maintain contact with families and friends continue at the same school and thrive within their own community.

The aims of the service will be to:

- Enable access to a wide range of foster care placement types from registered, good quality IFP's
- Improve placement stability supported by effective matching
- Exhibit strong collaboration and partnership working to ensure the child's needs and outcomes are at the centre of the work
- Demonstrate the involvement of the child ensuring their voice is heard and listened to through participation in decision making (where appropriate)
- Demonstrate effective and efficient communication to support placement finding
- Reduce the need to spot purchase

We shall be seeking to commission through a new Framework Agreement fostering placements for children and young people from 0-18 years. Albeit subject to changes and additions, as a minimum we shall require the following placement types:

- Long term or permanent placements
- Short Term / Task Focused / Bridging placements
- Short Break Placements for disabled children
- Parent(s) and Child(ren)
- Step Down from residential placements
- Emergency (same day, out of hours and/or within 24 hours of referral)
- Sibling groups
- Solo placements (with no other children within the foster household)

No action is required at this time and further information regarding this forthcoming procurement will follow in due course.

### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

15 November 2021

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## **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