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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): ocids-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

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

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

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

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