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Award

Improving Work Experience

Kent County Council

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-027754

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-037294

Published 3 October 2022, 5:40pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Kent County Council

Sessions House, County Road

MAIDSTONE

ME141XQ

Contact

Sam Wright

Email

sam.wright@kent.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 3000419624

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKJ4 - Kent

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.kent.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

Improving Work Experience

Reference number

SC220277

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80310000 - Youth education services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Work Experience (WEX) declined dramatically over the Covid period and is still very limited. Young people are often ill prepared for work experience and do not fully benefit from the opportunities. All 4 of EBP's key departments; Careers, Projects, Events and Work Experience, partner consistently and on a large-scale with Kent employers. EBP have developed numerous sessions, projects and initiatives. Work produced by EBP Kent within the areas of Projects, Work Experience and Events are subject to an evaluative process that links the results to the Gatsby Benchmarks framework. This is to not only adhere to Ofsted requirements and the evidence each school must produce, but also for improvement, efficacy and evolution

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: £35,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 80212000 - Vocational secondary education services
- 80310000 - Youth education services
- 80530000 - Vocational training services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ4 - Kent

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Due to the ongoing impact of the pandemic and the increased demand on services, the Kent Reconnect Programme has identified Provision for NEETs/refugees post-16 for 'at risk' young people as a priority. In order to support and develop their economic wellbeing so they do not go on to develop behaviours or mental health conditions which prevent them from engaging with education, work, family and friends and achieving their potential, the work was supported by KCC's Cabinet in their decision as an area to continue.

In December 2021 an opportunity to tender for an Improving WEX service was advertised,

including a requirement for specific characteristics of bidders:

Due to the short time scales involved, bidders will need to be well embedded in the Kent education and employment landscape. It is also likely that any bidders will already be delivering work or have off the shelf programmes that could be adapted to support this project to allow for the quickest possible mobilisation.

Bidders should already have:

- Excellent relationships with Kent schools and careers support networks.
- Extensive employer networks to promote the project and generate work experience placements.
- Good knowledge of the local economic and employment landscape.
- An existing base in Kent.
- Staff in place to deliver the project.

There were just two responses to the tender opportunity. EBP Kent's response showed a full understanding of the elements required and included sufficient detail to score highly in evaluation and moderation.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

On the 21 July 2022, The Kent County Council Cabinet, approved a decision to extend the Reconnect Programme to 31 March 2023 for specific areas of need including NEET Provision. Commissioners would not be able engage in a procurement to complete a tender process for such a short-term contract.

Regulation 32(2)(c) of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 Negotiated Procedure without prior publication of a Contract Notice insofar as is strictly necessary where, for reasons of extreme urgency brought about by events unforeseeable by the contracting authority, the time limits for the open or restricted procedures or competitive procedures with negotiation cannot be complied with.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

SC220277

Title

Improving Work Experience

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

29 September 2022

V.2.2) Information about tenders

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

EBP Kent

Kent Innovation Centre, Millennium Way

Broadstairs

CT9 2QQ

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ4 - Kent

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £35,000

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £35,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Kent County Council

Sessions House, County Road

Maidstone

ME14 1XQ

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

www.kent.gov.uk