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Awarded contract

SWAP Consortium

West Midlands Combined Authority

F03: Contract award notice

Notice reference: 2021/S 000-029133

Published: 23 November 2021, 11:52am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

West Midlands Combined Authority

16 Summer Lane

Birmingham

B19 3SD

Contact

James Vaughan

Email

james.vaughan@schoolsbuyingclub.com

Telephone

+44 8452577050

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKG3 - West Midlands

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.wmca.org.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/schoolsbuyingclub>

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

SWAP Consortium

Reference number

01358-2021

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80000000 - Education and training services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Through this tender exercise the WMCA is seeking to appoint a Sector Based Work Academy Programmes (SWAP) Lead organisation to develop a SWAP consortium of providers who will deliver the provision across the area for WMCA residents in line with our SWAP ambition. The SWAP Lead will develop a service where its provider members will bring forward applications, underpinned by agreement with the employer, setting out a training plan and the number of the jobs available delivering a job outcome rate of a minimum 65% at 13 weeks. The WMCA will make available £3m on annual basis over a 3-year period which means that the total investment is up to £9m. Contracts will be extended on annual basis subject to performance. Further in-year investment in the SWAP Consortium could take place based on performance. There is a virtual Q/A Session scheduled for 3pm, Tuesday 22nd June, see the PQQ Letter for more details.

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: £9,000,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 80000000 - Education and training services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKG3 - West Midlands

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) became responsible for the Adult Education Budget (AEB) for its residents from 1st August 2019. Devolved AEB provides funding for adult skills delivery, for residents (aged 19 and over) of the West Midlands' seven constituent areas (Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton). As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic the Universal Credit (UC) claimant

rate continues to rise across the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) area, this is against a backdrop of an already high unemployment rate in the West Midlands compared to other regions. To respond to the pandemic, the WMCA is planning to increase its investment in Sector Based Work Academy Programmes (SWAPs) to support both its residents back into work and employers in using SWAP as a recruitment solution. SWAP is a DWP (The Department for Work and Pensions) defined programme that the WMCA funds and delivers through its AEB funding. At present the WMCA invests in SWAP via its current provider base including colleges and local authorities through grant, and through Lot 1 Independent Training Providers (ITP's) contract for services. SWAP programmes are short sharp programmes lasting no longer than 6-weeks for unemployed individuals. The SWAP programme is developed around the job vacancy/vacancies provided by the employer, and the individual will receive occupational specific pre-employment training, work experience and a guaranteed interview at the end of the training for an actual vacancy. Through this tender exercise the WMCA is seeking to appoint a SWAP Lead organisation to develop a SWAP consortium of providers who will deliver the provision across the area for WMCA residents in line with our SWAP ambition. The SWAP Lead will develop a service where its provider members will bring forward applications, underpinned by agreement with the employer, setting out a training plan and the number of the jobs available delivering a job outcome rate of a minimum 65% at 13 weeks. The WMCA will make available £3m on annual basis over a 3-year period which means that the total investment is up to £9m. Contracts will be extended on annual basis subject to performance. Further in-year investment in the SWAP Consortium could take place based on performance. There is a virtual Q/A Session scheduled for 3pm, Tuesday 22nd June, see the PQQ Letter for more details.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

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: Yes

Identification of the project

N/A

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Competitive dialogue

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2021/S 000-013413](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

01358-2021

Title

SWAP Consortium

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

23 November 2021

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 5

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 3

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 5

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

BCTG Limited

J W Hinks Chartered Accountants, 19 Highfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 3BH

Birmingham

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKG - West Midlands (England)

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £9,000,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £9,000,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Royal Court of Justice

Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom