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Tender

Delivery Partner Support Contract – Early Years and Wraparound Childcare

Department for Education

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-030170

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-040b8b

Published 12 October 2023, 5:33pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Department for Education

Sanctuary Buildings, 20, Great Smith Street

London

SW1P 3BT

Email

CommercialQueries.FAMILIES@education.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education>

I.3) Communication

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://education.app.jaggaer.com/web/login.html>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://education.app.jaggaer.com/web/login.html>

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Delivery Partner Support Contract – Early Years and Wraparound Childcare

Reference number

itt_2654

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The purpose of this procurement is to provide the requirements for a contract to provide specialist support for local authorities (LAs) to enable them to deliver:

- a) their Early Years (EY) and wraparound childcare sufficiency duties;
- b) the expansion to the EY entitlements announced at the 2023 Spring Budget; and
- c) the wraparound childcare programme announced at the 2023 Spring Budget.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £6,850,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 75100000 - Administration services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

LAs are integral to the delivery of these programmes but require additional support to ensure they are in the best possible position to provide flexible and appropriate childcare in their areas. This tender seeks innovative bids from Potential Suppliers able to provide LAs with the advice, guidance and support they need to implement the reforms in their areas and overcome any challenges that could hinder implementation.

The successful Supplier will support 153 LAs (Unitary, Metropolitan Boroughs, London Boroughs, and County Councils). The contract covers England only.

The Supplier will provide expert support for LAs to support them to increase their capacity and expertise to deliver, supporting LAs to meet delivery milestones. This support will sit alongside support and guidance provided by DfE, to ensure LAs are able to meet their sufficiency duties for the expanded EY entitlements and deliver the wraparound childcare programme. All support provided through this contract should enable LAs to sustain activity beyond the life of this contract (i.e., beyond March 2026).

This support contract sits across both EY and the wraparound programme to ensure LAs receive joined-up support across both areas where required, to better enable authorities and DfE to realise synergies across the programmes, and to mitigate potential workload impacts for LAs. Where possible, and where this will support LAs most effectively, the requirements outlined in this section should be delivered jointly between both programmes.

While most requirements across the two programmes are broadly aligned, they differ with regard to the national monitoring of delivery. The wraparound programme requires a national delivery monitoring function involving the regular collection of LAs' delivery plans. This is because wraparound is a novel programme requiring potentially new activity for LAs, and regular delivery plan submissions are a condition of their grant funding. However, the related EY requirement differs because DfE already collects significant amounts of data about EY delivery and will therefore monitor national readiness and sufficiency in-house, with support and input from the Supplier.

We welcome innovative bids that go beyond the requirements outlined in this specification where that can more effectively support LAs and have developed our scoring criteria with this in mind.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system

Start date

8 January 2024

End date

31 March 2026

This contract is subject to renewal

No

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

Potential 12 month extension option.

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions for participation

III.1.2) Economic and financial standing

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

III.1.3) Technical and professional ability

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

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.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

Date

13 November 2023

Local time

12:00pm

IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted

English

IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender

Tender must be valid until: 13 May 2024

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

13 November 2023

Local time

12:01pm

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.3) Additional information

We will be holding a bidder engagement event on Thursday 19th October 12:00 – 13:00. Please register your interest via the Jaggaer portal.

This event will focus on our service requirements, specification and commercial approach.

Attendees will have the opportunity to provide feedback and ask clarification questions.

The event will be recorded and made available to anyone unable to attend on the 19th.

Please register for Jaggaer using the URL link below:

<https://education.app.jaggaer.com/web/login.html>

Once registered, the supplier event area can be accessed by clicking "View Opportunities" on the main page.

Event joining instructions will be issued following an expression of interest. The Jaggaer reference is itt_2654.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The Royal Courts of Justice

Strand

London

Country

United Kingdom