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Planning

National Fast Track Child and Family Social Work Programme

Department for Education

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-031334

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0301dd

Published 15 December 2021, 10:45pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Department for Education

Sanctuary Buildings, 20, Great Smith Street

London

SW1P 3BT

Email

fast.track@education.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://education.app.jaggaer.com/esop/guest/go/opportunity/detail?opportunityId=53061>

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

National or federal Agency/Office

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

National Fast Track Child and Family Social Work Programme

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80400000 - Adult and other education services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The purpose of this PIN is to initiate market consultation and is not being used as a call for competition. The PIN is intended to:

- Raise awareness with the market of a potential future procurement process for delivery of a National Fast Track to Child and Family Social Work Programme, enabling time for organisations to begin early discussions with the Department and each other as to how they may be able to deliver any future contract.

- Inform the market that the Department will be undertaking market consultation activity during January and February 2022, to gather information about the supply market; to explore potential delivery models and associated benefits of those models; and to inform its understanding of the risks and issues relevant to managing transition to, and mobilisation of, any new service arrangements.

- Inform the market that the services fall within the scope of Part 7 (Social and Other Specific Services) of Chapter 3 of the Public Procurement Regulations 2015, the so called “light touch regime” and that the Department will utilise the flexibilities afforded by Regulation 76(1) (Principles of awarding contracts), in determining the procurement procedure to be applied. The Department has not yet determined the detail of that form of procurement procedure but anticipates that it may include negotiation with tenderers. The procurement process will be set out in full in the procurement documents, in due course.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £80,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 72224000 - Project management consultancy services
- 79340000 - Advertising and marketing services
- 79600000 - Recruitment services
- 80300000 - Higher education services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKC - North East (England)
- UKD - North West (England)
- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber
- UKF - East Midlands (England)
- UKG - West Midlands (England)

- UKH - East of England
- UKI - London
- UKJ - South East (England)
- UKK - South West (England)

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Department intends to hold a series of events during January and February 2022

Event 1

The first of these events to be held virtually on Thursday 27 January 2022 and will be split into two parts, a morning session (10:30-12:00) and an afternoon session (13:00-15:00).

The morning session will be a plenary session at which representatives from the contracting authority will provide detailed information to potential suppliers about the proposed scope of the services and how we intend they will be procured.

The afternoon session will give potential suppliers an opportunity to discuss, in groups, these proposals with DfE representatives and other interested organisations in order to identify the strengths and weakness of these plans from a Market perspective.

To book a place at this event please visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/national-fast-track-child-and-family-social-work-programme-tickets-225873964107>. The deadline for book a space is Sunday 23 January 2022.

Event 2

The second set of events will be held between Wednesday 2 February and Wednesday 9 February 2022.

These will consist of a series of commercial in confidence 1:1 virtual meetings between interested suppliers and the Department. They will give an opportunity to discuss in more depth aspects of the National Fast Track Child & Family Social Work Programme that may be unclear and highlight what aspects of the procurement are most attractive.

To book a place at one of these events please visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/supplier-11s-national-fast-track-child-and-family-social-work-programme-tickets-227636977327> and choose from the available slots. The deadline for book a slot is Friday 28 January 2022.

Please note: Spaces for all events will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis, but

we intend to share the outcomes from these sessions with all potential suppliers following the conclusion of the consultation period

How to engage

At this stage, interested market suppliers should ensure they are registered on the Department's e-procurement solution (Jaggaer). The Department will engage with the market and administer any procurement via Jaggaer.

Jaggaer registration information can be found at

<https://education.app.jaggaer.com/esop/guest/go/opportunity/detail?opportunityId=53061>

Further notices regarding the market consultation approach will be published in due course.

II.2.14) Additional information

A more detailed Information Memorandum on the market consultation can be found on the Department's e-procurement solution (Jaggaer)

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<https://education.app.jaggaer.com/esop/guest/go/opportunity/detail?opportunityId=53061>

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

15 December 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

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The department wants to work with suppliers(s) who will attract and train talented graduates to become Child and Family Social Workers. We want to focus on further development of the curriculum to meet the needs of children and families; improve retention of newly qualified social workers from the programme; and increase the reach of the programme across all local authorities.

A full specification of the services required will be published as part of the procurement documents at SQ stage. Key elements of the services to be provided are as follows:

- Attraction & Promotion of the Scheme
- Candidate Recruitment and Selection
- Development and delivery of Child and Family Social Worker Training & Qualification
- Participant Retention and Ongoing Support
- Local Authority Recruitment and Placements
- Contractor Management Information
- Programme Evaluation
- Continuous Improvement
- Data Management and Security
- Contractor Performance Management
- Implementation and Resourcing
- Demobilisation and Exit Planning

The Fast Track to Child & Family Social Work Programme is a fast-track training scheme for child and family social workers that delivers an accelerated training pathway for outstanding candidates.

The Department intends to issue the Invitation to Tender and full tender package via the Jaggaer portal <https://education.app.jaggaer.com>. No hard copy documents will be issued

and all communications with the Authority (including submission of Tender responses) must be conducted via the e-Sourcing Portal.

Interested suppliers must ensure they are registered on the Jaggaer portal in order to participate in this procurement. Please ensure that the person who will be conducting the communications for your bid is the official contact in your Jaggaer registration.

Further information will be included in the ITT pack that will be openly available when the competition is activated.

All associated bidder questions and/or clarifications must be communicated through the Jaggaer E-Sourcing portal, adhering to Public Contracts Regulations 2015, section 18, transparency requirements

The publication of this notice does not signify the commencement of any procurement process, and does not constitute any commitment by the Department for Education to undertake any procurement exercise.