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Contract

Housing First VAWG

Westminster City Council

F20: Modification notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-032285

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-054884

Published 13 June 2025, 1:58pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Westminster City Council

64 Victoria Street

London

SW1E 6QP

Email

schaudhry1@westminster.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKI32 - Westminster

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.westminster.gov.uk/about-council/procurement>

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Housing First VAWG

Reference number

Con_27497

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 70333000 - Housing services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Lot No

N/A

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKI32 - Westminster

Main site or place of performance

Westminster

II.2.4) Description of the procurement at the time of conclusion of the contract:

Support service based on Housing First model to include additional properties.

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

Start date

1 May 2022

End date

31 March 2025

In the case of framework agreements, provide justification for any duration exceeding 4 years

N/A

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 V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

Con_27497

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract/concession award decision:

1 May 2022

V.2.2) Information about tenders

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

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

Solace Women's Aid

6 Greenland Place

London

NW1 0AP

Email

info@solacewomensaid.org

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI32 - Westminster

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

V.2.4) Information on value of the contract/lot/concession (at the time of conclusion of the contract;excluding VAT)

Total value of the procurement: £1,479,185

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

For the purposes of the values quoted in this notice: (i) the original value of the contract at award was £1,479,185; and (ii) following the modification referred to in section VII.2.1 below the total overall value of the contract is £1,896,818.70.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Westminster City Council

Westminster City Hall, 64 Victoria Street

London

SW1E 6QP

Country

United Kingdom

Section VII: Modifications to the contract/concession

VII.1) Description of the procurement after the modifications

VII.1.1) Main CPV code

- 70333000 - Housing services

VII.1.3) Place of performance

NUTS code

- UKI32 - Westminster

Main site or place of performance

Westminster

VII.1.4) Description of the procurement:

The nature and quantity of the services will be the same as provided for in the original contract. Only the expiry date of the contract will change

VII.1.5) Duration of the contract, framework agreement, dynamic purchasing system or concession

Start date

31 May 2022

End date

31 December 2025

VII.1.6) Information on value of the contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot/concession:

£1,896,818.70

VII.1.7) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

Solace Women's Aid

London

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI32 - Westminster

Charity Number

1082450

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

VII.2) Information about modifications

VII.2.1) Description of the modifications

Nature and extent of the modifications (with indication of possible earlier changes to the contract):

The contract is being modified to extend the term in accordance with Regulation 72(1)(b) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. An extension to the term is necessary to avoid a gap in the services while WCC carries out a new procurement process.

Given demand for services is increasing and suitable accommodation in the borough being scarce, the design of the re-procurement requires further consultation/consideration, to ensure that any future contract was fit for purpose (to include a revised delivery model and pricing structure). A contract extension is required until December 2025 to accommodate the timeframe to conduct the new procurement procedure and facilitate a transition period for any new providers appointed.

VII.2.2) Reasons for modification

Need for additional works, services or supplies by the original contractor/concessionaire.

Description of the economic or technical reasons and the inconvenience or duplication of cost preventing a change of contractor:

WCC takes the view that the above-mentioned nine-month extension is a permissible modification pursuant to Regulation 72(1)(b) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

A change in contractor cannot be made as WCC considers that it would be uneconomical and impractical for a short-term change of contractor to take place. The majority of the contract price relates to staffing costs, rather than the costs of the accommodation, and the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (TUPE) would apply to those staff if there was a change in contractor for this nine-month period. WCC believes it would not be economically viable for staff to be transferred to an alternative provider of the services on a short-term basis. Additionally, a change in contractor would involve a circa three-month mobilisation to begin providing the services, thereby risking a gap in the provision of the services. Continuity and consistency of support to service users is critical

and a change in contractor for such a short period of time could prove incredibly disruptive for those service users.

In the event WCC was required to change contractor at this juncture, particularly for a short period of nine months, this would cause significant inconvenience and substantial duplication of costs for WCC. This would require substantial duplication of effort to mobilise a new contractor for a short period of nine months, in addition to the resource/effort required to conduct a further procurement process in tandem with preparing for the re-procurement in respect of the longer-term contract. This would be highly disruptive to WCC's operations and would entail a duplication of costs that would not be an effective use of taxpayers' funds.

WCC is subject to statutory obligations to provide the services and the disruption caused by a change of contractor at this stage would create a real risk that WCC's ability to properly discharge those obligations would be compromised.

VII.2.3) Increase in price

Updated total contract value before the modifications (taking into account possible earlier contract modifications, price adaptations and average inflation)

Value excluding VAT: £1,479,185

Total contract value after the modifications

Value excluding VAT: £1,896,818.70