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Tender

## **Specialist Education Framework Phase 1 – Independent Non-Maintained Special Schools Lots 1 and 2**

Nottinghamshire County Council

F21: Social and other specific services – public contracts

Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-033893

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-041a55

Published 16 November 2023, 10:55am

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Nottinghamshire County Council

County Hall, Loughborough Road Westbridgford

Nottinghamshire

NG2 7QP

#### **Contact**

Mrs Katie Greenhalgh

#### **Email**

[katie.greenhalgh@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:katie.greenhalgh@nottscc.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1159774761

## **Country**

United Kingdom

## **Region code**

UKF - East Midlands (England)

## **Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk>

## **I.3) Communication**

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

<https://procontract.due-north.com/Advert?advertId=ddf16742-e17e-ee11-8125-005056b64545&p=527b4bbd-5c58-e511-80ef-000c29c9ba21>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://procontract.due-north.com/Advert?advertId=ddf16742-e17e-ee11-8125-005056b64545&p=527b4bbd-5c58-e511-80ef-000c29c9ba21>

## **I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Regional or local authority

## **I.5) Main activity**

General public services

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Specialist Education Framework Phase 1 – Independent Non-Maintained Special Schools  
Lots 1 and 2

Reference number

DN694393

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 80000000 - Education and training services

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

This is a new competitive procurement using a open procedure conducted in accordance with the light touch regime of the Public Procurement 2015 Regulations.

Nottinghamshire County Council ('the Council') are running an open tender process to establish a new framework under which the Council are looking to commission Independent non-maintained special schools (INMSS) and Post-16 (where the provision is delivered in house by the school) for the provision of specialist school placements for pupils who are not attending mainstream or maintained schools and who have an Education Health Care (EHC) Plan.

The establishment of a framework agreement for INMSS is the first phase of the recommissioning of the Specialist Education provision for the Council as set out in the Vision document. Ultimately the framework will be extended to include Alternative Education Provision and Post-16 institutions (e.g., further education colleges that are not part of the INMSS), that will be the second/third phases of the recommissioning project and new procurement processes will be run at later dates which are yet to be decided.

The new framework will replace the current Independent / non-maintained special schools Approved Provider List for Nottinghamshire (NAPL).

This initial phase of the framework will have two lots under which the Council can make specialist school placements. In Lot 1 commissioners will put in place block contracts with providers and Lot 2 will see the establishment of an approved provider list.

The scope and nature of the services required by the Council are set out in more detail in the specification. The service is required across the whole of Nottinghamshire County (excluding Nottingham City).

The term of the framework agreement will be for a period of 5 years and will commence from 01 April 2024 to the 31 March 2029. "Call-off" contracts under Lot 2 may commence from the 1st of April 2024, however the earliest date "call-off" contracts can commence under Lot 1 is the 1st of September 2024.

There is potential to extend this Framework Agreement for up to a further 6 years in increments of 24 months

Please read all the tender documents. If you have any questions, please submit them through the procurement portal using the messaging facility.

To register your interest in this tender and to view the tender documents, the tender is published on <https://www.eastmidstenders.org/>

Reference DN694393

The closing date for all tenders is the 20th of December 2023 at 4.30pm.

Please note that a standstill period of 10 days will commence from the notification of the contract award.

### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Tenders may be submitted for all lots

Maximum number of lots that may be awarded to one tenderer: 2

The contracting authority reserves the right to award contracts combining the following lots or groups of lots:

The provider must bid for all lots they can deliver. Under lot 1 Providers can bid on as many

locations as they wish to provide a service in, however no single provider will be awarded a block contract in 4 or more of the districts/boroughs.

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

Independent Non-Maintained Special School Block Arrangement

Lot No

1

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 80000000 - Education and training services

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKF15 - North Nottinghamshire
- UKF16 - South Nottinghamshire

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) 'the Council' is running an open tender process in accordance with the light touch regime of the Public Procurement regulations 2015 to establish a new framework for Specialist Education.

Under this lot the Council is looking to commission block contracts, known as “call-offs” from the Framework Agreement in each of the Nottinghamshire districts. The Block contracts will start from the beginning of the new school academic year commencing from September 2024.

Bidders must specify which areas they are bidding to operate in. The areas known as districts/boroughs are as follows:

Sub Lot Area

A Ashfield

B Bassetlaw

C Broxtowe

D Gedling

E Mansfield

F Newark and Sherwood

G Rushcliffe

The scope and nature of the services required by the Council are set out in more detail in the Specification. The service is required across the whole of Nottinghamshire County (excluding Nottingham City).

The term of the framework agreement will be for a period of 5 years and will commence from 01 April 2024 to the 31 March 2029. The earliest date “call-off” contracts can commence under Lot 1 is the 1st of September 2024.

There is potential to extend this Framework Agreement for up to a further 6 years in increments of 24 months

Please read all the tender documents. If you have any questions, please submit them through the procurement portal using the messaging facility.

To register your interest in this tender and to view the tender documents, the tender is published on <https://www.eastmidstenders.org/>

Reference DN694393

The closing date for all tenders is the 20th of December 2023 at 4.30pm.

Please note that a standstill period of 10 days will commence from the notification of the contract award.

## **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £115,500,000

## **II.2.7) Duration of the contract or the framework agreement**

Duration in months

60

## **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

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

## **II.2.14) Additional information**

The maximum Year 1 expenditure per block contract for lot 1 is £550,000 which equates to which equates to a total estimated value of £23,100,000 over the initial term of 5 years and a total estimated value of £115,500,000 over the life of the framework agreement if all the extension periods are undertaken per block contract. This is based on placements increasing by 10 for the first three years.

Please note that this is an indicative total value and the Council cannot guarantee the value of

business under the framework agreement as this is subject to demand for specialist school places and the fees are also subject to an annual fee review.

There is potential to extend this Framework Agreement for up to a further 6 years in increments of 24 months

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

Approved INMSS Provider List

Lot No

2

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 80000000 - Education and training services

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKF15 - North Nottinghamshire
- UKF16 - South Nottinghamshire

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) 'the Council' is running an open tender process in accordance with the light touch regime of the Public Procurement regulations 2015 to establish a new framework for Specialist Education.

This lot will see the establishment of a new approved INMSS provider list for placements that replaces the current Independent / non-maintained special schools Approved Provider List for Nottinghamshire (NAPL). This provider list will be effective from the 1st of April 2024 from which placements can be commissioned. It is to be noted that if the provider is intending to tender for a block arrangement they must also apply to the approved provider list in order to be able to bid for individual placements from the 1st April 2024 onwards and this will also mean that if a provider is successful in being awarded a block arrangement then the council can also place with them if the contracted block capacity had been reached and there was a further demand for places in that area.

Bidders that are successful in demonstrating that they are able to meet the Council's standards, as set out in the service specification, will be added to the Approved INMSS Provider List and will be subsequently invited to offer places that match the needs of the children and young people.

Full details of the provision required are detailed in the service specification.

The term of the framework agreement will be for a period of 5 years and will commence from 01 April 2024 to the 31 March 2029. There is potential to extend this Framework Agreement for up to a further 6 years in increments of 24 months

Please read all the tender documents. If you have any questions, please submit them through the procurement portal using the messaging facility.

To register your interest in this tender and to view the tender documents, the tender is published on <https://www.eastmidstenders.org/>

Reference DN694393

The closing date for all tenders is the 20th of December 2023 at 4.30pm.



Please note that a standstill period of 10 days will commence from the notification of the contract award.

### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £134,500,000

### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract or the framework agreement**

Duration in months

60

### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

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

### **II.2.14) Additional information**

There is potential to extend this Framework Agreement for up to a further 6 years in increments of 24 months

Please note that this is an indicative total value and the Council cannot guarantee the value of

business under the framework agreement as this is subject to demand for specialist school places and the fees are also subject to an annual fee review..

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Form of procedure**

Open procedure

#### **IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement**

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

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

The initial term of the framework agreement is for five years and will end on the 31st March 2029. There is potential to extend this Framework Agreement for up to a further six years in increments of twenty four months. This process is a competitive procurement conducted in accordance with the Light Touch Regime Regulations 74 to 77 of the Public Procurement Regulations 2015, the subject matter is Specialist Education for children and young people with special education needs who have an Education Health Care Plan and the extended duration of the Framework Agreement is justified due to the type of service being sourced and the nature of the market. This is to ensure continuity in the provision of specialist education school places for the children and young people and to minimise disruption to the children and young people.

### **IV.2) Administrative information**

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

Date

20 December 2023

Local time

4:30pm

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

English

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.2) Information about electronic workflows**

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

### **VI.3) Additional information**

There are three optional extensions to the framework agreement each of 24 months, a total of 6 years.

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

The Royal Courts of Justice

The Strand

London

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/>