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Tender

Re-opening of the Flexible Framework for the Provision of Care at Home for Adults and Older People

Fife Council

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-036994

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0384a2

Published 15 December 2023, 3:20pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Fife Council

Fife House, North Street

Glenrothes

KY7 5LT

Contact

Pasha Keir

Email

Pasha.Keir@fife.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 3451555555

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM72 - Clackmannanshire and Fife

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00187

I.3) Communication

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

www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Regional or local authority

I.5) Main activity

Social protection

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Re-opening of the Flexible Framework for the Provision of Care at Home for Adults and Older People

Reference number

SC0005/1

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The Fife Health and Social Care Partnership (“the Partnership”/H&SCP) requires to commission a Care at Home Service from a variety of external care providers. Fife’s Health and Social Care Partnership is committed to personalisation and outcome-based services for individuals of all ages and abilities and is seeking to appoint a range of partner organisations to deliver outcome focused support to young people, adults and older people with a range of identified support needs throughout Fife, under a flexible Framework agreement.

This Framework commenced on 1st June 2023, and is being re-opened to allow new Care at Home Providers to bid for a place on the Framework.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £17,905,031

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85300000 - Social work and related services
- 85310000 - Social work services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM72 - Clackmannanshire and Fife

Main site or place of performance

Fife

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Fife Health and Social Care Partnership (“the Partnership”/H&SCP) requires to commission a Care at Home Service from a variety of external care providers. Fife’s Health and Social Care Partnership is committed to personalisation and outcome-based services for individuals of all ages and abilities and is seeking to appoint a range of partner organisations to deliver outcome focused support to young people, adults and older people with a range of identified support needs throughout Fife, under a flexible Framework agreement.

Any partner organisations must be able to demonstrate experience and commitment to innovatively work with individuals within existing self-directed support policies and approaches. They must also evidence strong skills in working with families of individuals.

Objectives for the Framework are to ensure that individuals have access to support that aspires to the highest level of quality and promotes the right of each individual to direct their own support. Key elements of success from desirable organisations include robust evidence of promoting and delivering:

- personal preferences
- fluctuating levels of required support
- an organic service to reflect individual’s achievement of outcomes
- continuity and consistency in provision of individual outcome focussed support
- creative approaches that ensure outcomes are developed which promote ordinary lives

- innovative combinations of natural, paid and technological support

- support that enables and supports approaches to risk

The Provider will provide practical and personal care over 24 hours a day and 365 days a year to the Supported Person living in their own home and will be in line with the service aims and objectives specified within this document.

The purpose of the Service Specification is to set out the minimum standards required to ensure that a consistent quality of service is provided to all Supported Persons who are assessed by the Partnership as requiring a Care at Home Service.

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

Duration in months

36

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

The contract will be for the period of 3 years from 01/06/2023 with the option to extend for up to 12 months if required. It is estimated that Providers awarded a place on the framework at this re-opening will join the Framework from 01/03/2024.

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

Fife Council may require additional purchases under this contract which have not been specifically detailed in the "specification" however any additional purchases will be in full accordance with the requirements of Regulation 72 of the Public Contract (Scotland) Regulations 2015.

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

This Framework will be a flexible Framework which re-opens at regular periods throughout the lifetime of the Contract. This is the first re-opening period.

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions for participation

III.1.1) Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers

List and brief description of conditions

Providers are required to hold the relevant registration to provide the services detailed in the Service Specification.

III.1.2) Economic and financial standing

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with several operators

Envisaged maximum number of participants to the framework agreement: 100

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2022/S 000-032387](#)

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

Date

19 January 2024

Local time

5:00pm

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

English

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

19 January 2024

Local time

5:00pm

Place

Fife House, Glenrothes or staff home address if working from home.

Information about authorised persons and opening procedure

Pasha Keir, Niki Hutchison and/or Katy Hope.

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: Yes

Estimated timing for further notices to be published: There will be an ongoing requirement for external Care at Home Services, it is envisaged that the next time this will go out to full open tender will be 3 years (or 4 years with extension) after Contract award date. As this is a flexible framework this Contract will be re-opened at regular intervals throughout the Contract lifetime to allow new Care Providers to submit a bid to join the Framework.

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

Tenderers should note that to improve the Tender completion and evaluation processes, the Tender Document (TN2) has been changed aesthetically, however the content is still the same, as the information that was originally requested in the appendices have been reviewed and now sits either within the body of the tender (quality questions) or the T&Cs.

Providers already awarded a place on the Care at Home Framework (SC0005) are NOT required to re-submit a Tender.

Please note this requirement is NOT for Supported Living, this has been advertised under a separate Contract Notice (SC0026)

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the Public Contracts Scotland Web Site at

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=751706.

The buyer has indicated that it will accept electronic responses to this notice via the Postbox facility. A user guide is available at

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/sitehelp/help_guides.aspx.

Suppliers are advised to allow adequate time for uploading documents and to dispatch the

electronic response well in advance of the closing time to avoid any last minute problems.

The Contracting Authority does not intend to include a sub-contract clause as part of community benefits (as per Section 25 of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014) in this contract for the following reason:

Sub-Contracting is not permitted.

The Contracting Authority does not intend to include any community benefit requirements in this contract for the following reason:

Community Benefits have not previously been sought for these services (apart from recent mini competitions which have been held for supported Living requirements) as to date they have been deemed to be delivering a Community Benefit in themselves: The previous PSR states “by their nature the services provided under this Contract continually benefit members of the community. In addition, many of the providers in the market are local companies employing local carers.”

Community Benefits have been considered for this procurement but have not been deemed as appropriate therefore will not be requested for the following reasons:

Community benefits are often encouraged to be around generating employment and training opportunities however it is well documented that the Care Sector is experiencing issues in recruiting and retaining staff and it is felt that this would add additional pressures.

Traditionally, wider communities offer support to Care Providers in the form of volunteers, fundraising etc. which is the opposite to Care Providers offering additional benefits to the community.

It is felt that asking for other community benefits would place a disproportionate burden on the Providers at a time when they are already dealing with the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, EU Exit and the Cost-of-Living Crisis. A recent article published on the Scottish Care website The straw that breaks the back of care outlines the current challenges that Care Homes are experiencing with many unsure how they will be able to continue to operate with the crippling rising costs.

For the reasons above and the fact that the pricing is fixed for this Contract rebates will not be sought.

(SC Ref:751706)

Download the ESPD document here:

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/ESPD/ESPD_Download.aspx?id=751706

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Kirkcaldy Sheriff Court

Kirkcaldy

KY1 1XQ

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

Economic operators should approach the contracting authority in the first instance. However, the only formal remedy is to apply to the courts:

An economic operator that suffers, or is at risk of suffering, loss or damage attributable to a breach of duty under the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015 or the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014, may bring proceedings in the Sheriff Court or the Court of Session.