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Not applicable

PL0093 - Project THRIVE

Essex County Council

F14: Notice for changes or additional information

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-040343

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04b53c

Published 13 December 2024, 4:56pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

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Buyer's address

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Section II: Object**II.1) Scope of the procurement****II.1.1) Title**

PL0093 - Project THRIVE

Reference number

DN751265

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 60112000 - Public road transport services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Project THRIVE - A research project that will investigate and evaluate a range of initiatives which aim to grow patronage on bus services.

Essex County Council (ECC) has been allocated £4.9m in 2023/24 and £4.9m in 2024/25 from Department for Transport (DfT) Bus Service Improvement Plan Plus (BSIP+) funding, this BSIP+ funding will be used to support a range of initiatives that were set out in the Essex Bus Service Improvement Plan.

The Thrive research project was originally set out in the Essex County Council Bus Service Improvement Plan 2021-2026 which was published in 2021. The aim of the Thrive research project is to explore what targeted measures may drive growth in market town bus services. This data led project will test a range of initiatives and assess which has the greatest impact on driving passenger growth.

ECC must ensure that all funding conditions under the BSIP+ Funding agreement are complied with - As defined in the BSIP Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) :

3.2 The Authority may use the funding to target it on the actions that they – and local operators through their Enhanced Partnership (where relevant) – believe will deliver the best overall outcomes in growing long term patronage, revenues and thus maintaining service levels, whilst maintaining essential social and economic connectivity for local communities. In some places that may involve ensuring existing connections are maintained (either by conventional services or DRT). Elsewhere it might be achieved through increasing the frequency on key corridors or the operating hours of some services whilst reducing others; or reducing fares or introducing new local concessions to open up new markets and revenue.

3.3 The funding must be spent on bus measures.

3.6 The funding should not be used to support generic marketing or advertising costs that are not directly related to specific improvements (such as a fares change, or new services).

ECC intend to utilise a minimal SSQ which will assess Potential Supplier Information and Exclusion Grounds.

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.6) Original notice reference

Notice number: [2024/S 000-036313](#)

Section VII. Changes

VII.1) Information to be changed or added

VII.1.2) Text to be corrected in the original notice

Section number

DEFAULT

VII.2) Other additional information

In light of recent developments with this project, the decision has been taken to push back the tender go Live date to January, instead of Monday 16th December.

Please make sure to check the Find a Tender Service for any further updates.

If you have any further questions please contact ryan.morley@essex.gov.uk.