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Tender

Specialist Education Framework Phase 1 – Independent Non-Maintained Special Schools Round 3

Nottinghamshire County Council

F21: Social and other specific services – public contracts

Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-040529

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0468ed

Published 17 December 2024, 8:49am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Nottinghamshire County Council

County Hall, Loughborough Road Westbridgford

Nottinghamshire

NG2 7QP

Contact

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Email

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Telephone

+44 1159774761

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKF15 - North Nottinghamshire

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=1c215ea9-c6bb-ef11-8132-005056b64545&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=1c215ea9-c6bb-ef11-8132-005056b64545&p=527b4bbd-5c58-e511-80ef-000c29c9ba21>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Regional or local authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Specialist Education Framework Phase 1 – Independent Non-Maintained Special Schools Round 3

Reference number

DN756213

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80000000 - Education and training services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Nottinghamshire County Council (the Council) is seeking to add further Independent non-maintained Special Schools (INMSS) to a new Framework Agreement under which the Council are looking to commission INMSS and Post-16 (where the provision is delivered in house by the school) provision of specialist school placements for pupils who are not attending mainstream or maintained special schools and who have an Education Health Care (EHC) Plan. This will replace the current Independent / non-maintained special schools Approved Provider List for Nottinghamshire (NAPL).

All Providers currently delivering or intending to deliver services detailed within the updated Specification (Part 4 – Specification) must apply to be on the new Framework Agreement as the current provider list (NAPL) will come to an end on the 31st of December 2024.

This initial phase of the framework will have two lots under which the Council can make specialist school placements (See paragraph 5 below for further details). In Lot 1 commissioners will put in place block contracts with providers and Lot 2 will see the establishment of an approved INMSS provider list

This process is the reopening of the framework for new providers to bid to join the new INMSS framework and is the third tender round. This tender round is only open to bid to join the INMSS Approved Provider List which is Lot 2 of the Framework Agreement. The Council are not re-opening Lot 1 Block Contract in this tender round. Any providers who

were unsuccessful in the previous tender rounds (1 and 2) for Lot 2 can reapply in this tender round (3).

ANY PROVIDERS WHO HAVE ALREADY SUCCESSFULLY APPLIED IN PREVIOUS TENDER ROUNDS AND HAVE BEEN AWARDED A PLACE ON THE FRAMEWORK DO NOT NEED TO APPLY AGAIN IN THIS TENDER ROUND.

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

Reference DN756213

The closing date for all tenders is the 28th of January 2025 at 5.00pm.

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 one lot only

Maximum number of lots that may be awarded to one tenderer: 1

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Lot 2 Approved INMSS Provider List

Lot No

2

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 800000000 - 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 (the Council) is seeking to add further Independent non-maintained Special Schools (INMSS) to a new Framework Agreement under which the Council are looking to commission INMSS and Post-16 (where the provision is delivered in house by the school) provision of specialist school placements for pupils who are not attending mainstream or maintained special schools and who have an Education Health Care (EHC) Plan. This will replace the current Independent / non-maintained special schools Approved Provider List for Nottinghamshire (NAPL).

All Providers currently delivering or intending to deliver services detailed within the updated Specification (Part 4 – Specification) must apply to be on the new Framework Agreement as the current provider list (NAPL) will come to an end on the 31st of December 2024.

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This process is the reopening of the framework for new providers to bid to join the new INMSS framework and is the third tender round. This tender round is only open to bid to join the INMSS Approved Provider List which is Lot 2 of the Framework Agreement. The Council are not re-opening Lot 1 Block Contract in this tender round. Any providers who were unsuccessful in the previous tender rounds (1 and 2) for Lot 2 can reapply in this tender round (3).

ANY PROVIDERS WHO HAVE ALREADY SUCCESSFULLY APPLIED IN PREVIOUS TENDER ROUNDS AND HAVE BEEN AWARDED A PLACE ON THE FRAMEWORK DO NOT NEED TO APPLY AGAIN IN THIS TENDER ROUND.

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 (Part 3 – 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.

A Framework Agreement is an agreement between the contracting authority and one or

more Service Providers, the purpose of which is to establish the terms governing contracts to be awarded during a given period.

This is a multi-provider framework further details of which can be found in the Service Specification in the tender documents on the ProContract Portal -

www.eastmidstenders.org

Reference DN756213

There is no guarantee of work under this Framework.

Bidders should note that a further opportunity/opportunities for organisations to bid for inclusion on this framework may be advertised. No date/s have been set for any such process; however, further rounds for both lots 1 and 2 may periodically open again subject to demand. Any Bidder who is unsuccessful in this tender may bid again in any future tender for admission to the framework.

The Framework Agreement is commissioned under the Light Touch Regime 74 -77 Public Contracts Regulations 2015 using an open procedure and advertised in the Find a Tender Service Find high value contracts in the public sector - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

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.

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 procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement which is greater than 4 years. The initial term of the framework agreement is for five years and will end on the 31st December 2029. There is the potential to extend the framework agreement for up to a further six years in increments of 24 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 a 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.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2024/S 000-015869](#)

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

Date

28 January 2025

Local time

5:00pm

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

English

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/>

