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Planning

CS6025: Young People's Supported Housing Pathway

Tower Hamlets

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-041394

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-04cc9a

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Tower Hamlets

New Town Hall, 160 Whitechapel Road London

London

E1 1BJ

Contact

Ms Morgan Hughes

Email

Morgan.Hughes@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 2073644099

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKI - London

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

I.3) Communication

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

https://www.londontenders.org/procontract/supplier.nsf/frm_home?openForm&Login

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

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

CS6025: Young People's Supported Housing Pathway

Reference number

DN756886

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85300000 - Social work and related services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This PIN notice is a request to the market to engage with Tower Hamlets in relation to deliver of the Children and Young People's Supported Housing Pathway that provides accommodation and support services to young people aged 16 to 21 (up to 25 depending on needs), who are in and on the edge of care, including looked-after children (LAC), care leavers, unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASCs) and homeless YP. Tower Hamlets wish to explore the viability of alternative commissioning delivery models, including block contracts, framework agreements, a dynamic purchasing system (DPS), and/or a hybrid model that integrates elements of each. Through this market engagement, we aim to gather insights from key stakeholders including provider organisations who are Registered Social Landlords (RSLs), charities and private sector provider organisations.

This is not a call to tender.

Request to participate must be received by 8th January 2025 by 5pm.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKI - London

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

In June 2024, the Children and Young Peoples Placements Board approved a hybrid approach for commissioning supported accommodation in the Children and Young People's Supported Housing Pathway that provides accommodation and support services to young people aged 16 to 21 (up to 25 depending on needs), who are in and on the edge of care, including looked-after children (LAC), care leavers, unaccompanied

asylum-seeking children (UASCs) and homeless YP. The Pathway enables the Council to meet its legal duties under the Children's Act 1989, The Housing Act 1996 and The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017. This hybrid approach included commissioning block contracts along with a framework delivery model that was to be developed to address the need for supported accommodation from Housing Options Support Team (HOST) and the current placement need that is being met by spot purchased provision from The Children's Placement Team (CPT) and The Through Care Service (TCS).

Unsuccessful tenders for block contracts took place in 2023 and 2024 where there were insufficient bids from providers who could demonstrate that they could meet the required quality standards. As a consequence, the necessity for a strategic re-evaluation of the commissioning approach to ensure effectiveness, efficiency, and value for money has been accelerated.

It is recognised that existing block contract provision is predominantly with established RSLs or charities who operate their support services from larger buildings with a higher number of units of supported accommodation. Placements from CPT and TCS are predominantly with private sector providers who have smaller buildings with fewer units of accommodation. This market engagement exercise will endeavour to incorporate the differing perspectives from different types of providers in the market and gauge the appetite for smaller newer providers to enter into the supported accommodation market. We also aim to establish relations with property landlords to facilitate relationships between them and support providers who are seeking run support services from the landlords' properties. This market engagement exercise will enable Commissioning to better understand the capacity, preferences, and the potential challenges in transitioning from the current block contract arrangements and adapting to the delivery models proposed. This process will then enable us to design a procurement strategy and subsequent tender, that enhances service delivery, by increasing the availability of suitable placements, improving cost control measures and aligning with the needs of HOST and CPT/TCS's requirements.

Parties should refer to the market engagement brief for information on how to register their interest.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

1 September 2025

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Parties are to refer to the market engagement brief for further information on how to register their interest.