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Planning

## **Early Learning and Childcare Flexible Framework Agreement (New Entrants)**

North Ayrshire Council

F21: Social and other specific services – public contracts

Prior information notice without call for competition

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-049693

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-058a40

Published 19 August 2025, 9:26am

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

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

North Ayrshire Council

Cunninghame House, Friars Croft

Irvine

KA12 8EE

#### **Email**

[procurement@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:procurement@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1294310000

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKM93 - East Ayrshire and North Ayrshire mainland

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00337](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00337)

**I.3) Communication**

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

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

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

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## **Section II: Object**

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

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

Early Learning and Childcare Flexible Framework Agreement (New Entrants)

Reference number

NAC/5198

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

- 85312110 - Child daycare services

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

Services

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

North Ayrshire Council's Early Learning and Childcare Flexible Framework Agreement is now live, and in accordance with the terms of the framework new applicants are invited to join the framework throughout the contract duration.

All providers who apply and meet the minimum conditions of the Flexible Framework agreement (i.e. the National Standards & relevant legislation as noted in the attached documentation) and who accept the rates/framework terms and conditions shall be accepted to deliver funded provision through the Flexible Framework Agreement.

Please review the attached documentation for further information.

Completed applications should be sent to [procurement@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:procurement@north-ayrshire.gov.uk). Applications received during the Flexible Framework period will be evaluated in a 4-6 week period from the application date.

Providers successfully appointed to the framework will be eligible to deliver funded placements from their date of appointment (i.e. the date an award letter is issued) until the Framework expiry date (31st July 2025).

Please note, the purpose of the Flexible Framework Agreement is to ensure that Providers meet the National Standards and requirements to be eligible to deliver funded placements. Providers should note that being appointed to the Flexible Framework Agreement does not provide any guarantee of business.

The terms and conditions of the Flexible Framework Agreement will be the Early Learning and Childcare Model Terms and Conditions.

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

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

### **II.2) Description**

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

Lot 1 - Early Learning and Childcare Services (Including Private, Voluntary and Third Sector Settings)

Lot No

1

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

- 80110000 - Pre-school education services
- 85312110 - Child daycare services
- 85312100 - Daycare services

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

NUTS codes

- UKM93 - East Ayrshire and North Ayrshire mainland

Main site or place of performance

North Ayrshire

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

Lot 1 of this Flexible Framework Agreement sets out the minimum standards required from Early Learning and Childcare (Nursery) Services (including Private, Voluntary and Third Sector settings).

To apply for this Lot Providers must:

- 1) Read and review all documentation attached to this notice;

- 2) Submit a completed Part A (Information and Requirements) Form; and
- 3) Provide all required evidence listed in Part B (Provider Evidence Requirements) for Lot 1

Where initial evidence submitted does not provide sufficient assurance, additional evidence may be sought by the Council. Potential additional evidence that may be sought is outlined in the attached documents.

## **II.2) Description**

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

Lot 2 - Childminding Services

Lot No

2

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

- 80110000 - Pre-school education services
- 85312110 - Child daycare services
- 85312100 - Daycare services

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

NUTS codes

- UKM93 - East Ayrshire and North Ayrshire mainland

Main site or place of performance

North Ayrshire

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

Lot 2 of this Flexible Framework Agreement sets out the minimum standards required from Childminding Services.

To apply for this Lot Providers must:

- 1) Read and review all documentation attached to this notice;

- 2) Submit a completed Part A (Information and Requirements) Form; and
- 3) Provide all required evidence listed in Part B (Provider Evidence Requirements) for Lot 2

Where initial evidence submitted does not provide sufficient assurance, additional evidence may be sought by the Council. Potential additional evidence that may be sought is outlined in the attached documents.

### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

3 August 2026

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

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:

The framework has been divided into lots to support SMEs to gain access to opportunities through the flexible framework. The nature of the services delivered are unlikely to be delivered through sub-contractors and therefore a sub-contract clause is not suitable for this type of services framework.

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

The Flexible Framework does not provide a guarantee of work, therefore community benefits are not being made mandatory within the tender.

(SC Ref:792536)

A Contract Award Notice will be published on an annual basis confirming the names of providers awarded to the framework in that year.

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=804062](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=804062).

(SC Ref:804062)

