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Planning

HAC6132 - Supervised Toothbrushing Targeted Programme

Tower Hamlets

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-051424

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-058e21

Published 27 August 2025, 8:51 am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Tower Hamlets

Tower Hamlets Town Hall, 160 Whitechapel Road

London

E1 1BJ

Contact

Ms Joanne Spree

Email

joanne.spree@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 2073645000

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

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

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

HAC6132 - Supervised Toothbrushing Targeted Programme

Reference number

DN788377

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Deliver a targeted supervised toothbrushing programme for children aged 3-5 years old who live in areas with the greatest deprivation.

Improve oral health outcomes for children, build lifelong good oral health habits and decrease health care spend on preventable dental health issues in childhood.

Justification for contract duration:

Government funding has only been guaranteed for one year. After this time we are planning to combine the supervised toothbrushing and fluoride varnish programmes into one contract starting in September 2026

Impact:

Despite being largely preventable, tooth decay remains the most common oral disease among children and young people in England (PHE 2019)[1]. Oral health plays a critical role in children's overall wellbeing and development, impacting not only their physical health but also their ability to sleep, eat, speak, play and socialise with other children. Poor oral health can lead to missed school days due to dental pain, affecting children's learning, development, and school readiness. It is estimated that nationally at least 60,000 days are missed from school during the year for hospital extractions (OHID 2022)[2]. There are also wider implications for families, as parents may need to take time off work to attend dental appointments with their children.

Introducing a supervised toothbrushing programme aims to:

Reduce the incidence and prevalence of decayed missing and filled teeth (DMFT) in the target population

Increase the proportion of children free from dental caries/decay

Improve the overall oral health status of vulnerable children from low income households with the overall aim of reducing health inequities

Support children to develop good oral hygiene habits resulting in improved lifelong oral health

Support children's right to the best possible standard of health under the UN Convention on the Rights of Child, as endorsed by our local Accelerate! Tower Hamlets Children and Families Partnership Strategy 2024-2029

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £79,017.25

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

Government guidance requires the programme to be delivered by a suitable community dental provider, such as NHS Community Dental Services, the market for which is limited both nationally, and locally in the London region. Following the PSR 'Most Suitable Provider' process, we are intending to undertake a market engagement event to identify the most suitable provider and expect to be able to directly award this new contract following this event.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

11 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