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Contract

Prepaid Card Services

London Borough of Islington

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-062881

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05a991

Published 7 October 2025, 1:48pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

London Borough of Islington

Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, Islington

London

N12UD

Contact

Strategic Procurement

Email

procurement@islington.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKI43 - Haringey and Islington

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.islington.gov.uk

Buyer's address

https://www.islington.gov.uk/business/opportunities/selling_council/procurement-ops

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

Prepaid Card Services

Reference number

2425-0256

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 66172000 - Financial transaction processing and clearing-house services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The contract covers the provision of long-term prepaid card services to support various council operations including Adult Social Care, Children's Services, NRPF, and Client Finance. Prepaid cards enable fast electronic fund transfers, reduce manual payment processes, and allow real-time expenditure monitoring. The service supports cashless operations and protects vulnerable clients from financial abuse.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £450,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKI - London

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The procurement covers the provision of long-term prepaid card services to support multiple council operations including Adult Social Care, Children's Services, NRPF, Client Finance, and Education. The council currently manages approximately 2,000 prepaid cards across eight payment platforms. The service enables fast electronic fund transfers, reduces manual payment processes, and allows real-time expenditure monitoring. It supports a largely cashless operation and protects vulnerable clients from financial abuse.

The contract includes a fixed monthly fee based on card volume (currently in the 1,001-3,000 bracket), plus additional charges for setup, replacement cards, reporting, and platform-specific changes. The successful provider, Prepaid Financial Services (PFS), was selected via direct award under the NEPO framework due to their ability to meet all requirements, including robust reporting, joint account functionality, and continuity of service.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

The contract was awarded without prior publication in accordance with Regulation 32 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. This is lawful because the procurement is a direct call-off from an existing framework agreement (NEPO505 - Payment Solutions).

The framework permits direct award and includes Prepaid Financial Services (PFS) as an eligible supplier. The council selected PFS based on continuity of service, value for money, and their ability to meet all technical and operational requirements. No further competition was required under the terms of the framework.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

7 February 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Prepaid Financial Services

London

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

Companies House

06337638

The contractor is an SME

No

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot: £450,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court of Justice

London

Email

enquiries@justice.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom