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Tender

# Provision of Independent Advocacy & Independent Visitor Services

**Bradford Children & Families Trust** 

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - view information about notice types

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-066046

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05ce4e

Published 16 October 2025, 4:30pm

## Scope

#### Reference

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### **Description**

Partners from Bradford Children and Families Trust and the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council are working together to review and develop Independent Visiting and Advocacy Services for Bradford's Looked-After Children or Care Leavers. Legislation imposes a duty on local authorities to make arrangements for the provision of advocacy and to appoint an independent visitor for children and young people intending to make representations under the Children Act 1989 (Adoption and Children Act 2002). As well as requiring an Independent Visiting and Advocate service to meet its statutory obligations, Bradford Children's and Families Trust wishes to work with the successful partner to adopt a casework approach which will utilise generic lessons learnt from advocates' work to develop more child-centred services. Children and young people eligible to receive a service are aged 0 to 21 years and up to 25 in the case of Care Leavers in full-time education The Trust BCFT is seeking to work with providers who can demonstrate continual improvements in value for money achieved by deploying efficient and innovative

ways to meet the needs of the children and young people The programme of services is divided into 2 Lots, which are as follows: • Lot 1: Independent Advocacy for Looked After Children • Lot 2: Independent Visitor Services The contracts will commence from 1st April 2026, for an initial period of 2 years, with 1 option to extend by up to 12 months.

#### **Total value (estimated)**

- £810,000 excluding VAT
- £972,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

#### **Contract dates (estimated)**

- 1 April 2026 to 1 April 2028
- Possible extension to 1 April 2029
- 3 years, 1 day

Description of possible extension:

One-year extension subject to performance.

## Main procurement category

Services

#### **CPV** classifications

- 85300000 Social work and related services
- 85310000 Social work services

# Lot LOT-0001. Lot 1: Independent Advocacy for Looked After Children

#### **Description**

The central role of an advocate is to support children and young people to express their wishes and feelings to decision-makers, and ensure their rights are upheld. The Service will offer professional, high-quality independent advocacy to children and young people across all categories of need, who are users of Children's Social Care.

#### Lot value (estimated)

- £600,000 excluding VAT
- £720,000 including VAT

#### Same for all lots

CPV classifications and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

## Lot LOT-0002. Lot 2: Independent Visitor Services

## **Description**

An Independent Visitor's role is to visit and befriend a child in care who has little or no family time with their birth parents and would benefit from having an adult in their lives

who can give them support, advice and take an interest in their affairs. The objective of the Independent Visitor Service is to recruit, train, match, and manage a pool of volunteer Independent Visitors for the population of children in care covered within the scope of this specification.

#### Lot value (estimated)

- £210,000 excluding VAT
- £252,000 including VAT

#### Same for all lots

CPV classifications and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

# **Participation**

## Particular suitability

Lot LOT-0001. Lot 1: Independent Advocacy for Looked After Children

Lot LOT-0002. Lot 2: Independent Visitor Services

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

#### **Submission**

## **Enquiry deadline**

10 November 2025, 5:00pm

#### **Tender submission deadline**

20 November 2025, 11:00am

## Submission address and any special instructions

https://uk.eu-supply.com/app/rfq/rwlentrance\_s.asp?PID=99144&B=

## Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

## Languages that may be used for submission

English

## Award decision date (estimated)

9 January 2026

### **Award criteria**

Name	Туре	Weighting
Quality Criteria	Quality	70%
Price	Price	30%

## Other information

## Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

## **Procedure**

# **Procedure type**

Open procedure

# Special regime

Light touch

# **Contracting authority**

#### **Bradford Children & Families Trust**

• Public Procurement Organisation Number: PRBL-9974-CGBN

Sir Henry Mitchell House, 4 Manchester Road

Bradford

BD5 0QL

# United Kingdom

Contact name: BCFT Procurement

Telephone: +44 01234567890

Email: Tenders@bradfordcft.org.uk

Region: UKE41 - Bradford

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government