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Contract

Provision of Nursery Operator Services

Orkney Islands Council

F23: Social and other specific services – concessions

Concession award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-080436

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-045a62

Published 8 December 2025, 9:28am

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Orkney Islands Council

Council Offices, School Place

Kirkwall

KW15 1NY

Contact

Procurement

Email

procurement@orkney.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 01856873535

Fax

+44 01856876158

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM65 - Orkney Islands

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00369

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

Provision of Nursery Operator Services

Reference number

OIC/PROC/1806

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80110000 - Pre-school education services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Orkney Islands Council seek expressions of interest from providers/concessionaires who are interested in providing childcare to up to 51 0-5 year old children, within a Council owned purpose built nursery setting.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This concession is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

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

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM65 - Orkney Islands

Main site or place of performance

Standalone new build Nursery facility at UHI Orkney, Kirkwall

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Orkney currently has no private or third sector nursery provider. The council has been running a small temporary day care service for children aged 0-3 since August 2021 in an effort to meet the childcare needs of working families.

In June 2020, Orkney Islands Council agreed to build a new 51 place 0-5 nursery provision next UHI Orkney in Kirkwall. It was agreed that the running of this provision would be tendered, creating a new opportunity for an interested operator.

With the building project entering the next phase, with an anticipated completion of the end of October 2024, the newly built nursery will be, fit for purpose, high quality, and have impactful learning environments. The new service will replace an emergency childcare provision for children aged 0-3 operated by the council out of temporary premises. The provider will deliver the service in the setting and will provide childcare for children aged 0-5 with the option of being in partnership with the Local Authority to provide funded early learning and childcare for eligible children aged 2-5.

The services will be registered with the Care Inspectorate as day care of children services.

The contract will be a concession contract for a period of four (4) years with the option of four one-year extensions.

It is the intention of the Authority to host a Meet the Buyer event at Keelylang Early Years Base, Pickaquoy Road in Kirkwall on Wednesday 5 June 2024 5.30 - 6.30pm.

The purpose of the Meet the Buyer event is to give providers interested in tendering for the Provision of Nursery Operator Services the opportunity to learn more about the overall requirements for the service and to provide feedback to the Authority on the proposals.

Parties who are interested in the project will not be prejudiced by any response or failure to respond to this Meet the Buyer Event Notice. Nor shall a response to this Meet the Buyer Event Notice guarantee an invitation to participate in any future procurement process that OIC may conduct. For the avoidance of doubt, this Meet the Buyer Event Notice does not constitute a call for competition to procure any works or services and is not published with the intent to reduce the time limit for the receipt of tenders.

OIC will not be liable for any costs, fees or expenses incurred by any party responding to this Meet the Buyer Event Notice or any party who may participate in any future procurement process. In the event that OIC decides to proceed with any procurement, it is currently assumed that such procurement will be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Contract Standing Orders rules and that of the relevant Procurement Legislation.

II.2.7) Duration of the concession

Duration in months

96

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

II.2.14) Additional information

The contract will be for an initial 4 year period with 4, 12 month extensions available

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Form of procedure

Award procedure with prior publication of a concession notice

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2024/S 000-015691](#)

Section V. Award of concession

A concession/lot is awarded: No

V.1) Information on non-award

The concession/lot is not awarded

No tenders or requests to participate were received or all were rejected

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Please contact elc@orkney.gov.uk to register your interest in joining us at the Meet the Buyer Event on the 5 June 2024 to discuss this contract opportunity with us.

(SC Ref:817844)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Kirkwall Sheriff Court

Kirkwall

Country

United Kingdom