**Contract 1617- 0696 Ambitious Communities**

Islington Council invites suitable expressions of interest from suppliers for Ambitious Communities.

**Background**

Islington Council is committed to supporting all young people, whatever their background, to have the same opportunities to reach their potential and enjoy a good quality of life.  In this context, Islington has maintained its investment in universal youth services and has undertaken a range of work over the past 5 years to shape and co-produce engaging and relevant services and opportunities alongside young people.

The principles that underpin the commissioning and providing of the youth offer are set out in the ***Islington Outcomes Framework for Young People***.In 2016, new work, including a deliberative event, attended by nearly 100 young people and adult stakeholders, confirmed that these principles remain relevant for young people, and identified what they want including:

* to continue to co-produce opportunities
* to take part in opportunities that are ‘worth it’ for them, that contribute to their development and fit around their busy lives
* a flexible offer that they can start to access close to home and offers opportunities that are relevant for older young people (over 18)
* to receive more and varied communication about what is on offer

The report of the deliberative event Islington Youth: ***Better Futures Start Here!***

Islington has secured a varied and engaging universal youth offer which currently includes the Islington Youth Council, Lift, Platform, Rose Bowl, the Zone and Spectrum and other opportunities which engage young people with special educational needs and disabilities as well as pregnant young women and young parents.  There is also an online directory of accurate and up to date information for young people on izzy-info.com.

The council now intends to further expand the quality and extent of the universal youth offer through procuring a range of new contracts, including this specification for Ambitious Communities.

**The requirement**

Ambitious Communities is about social action that identifies and uses the resources and skills of young people and the communities they live in to bring about positive change.

Ambitious Communities funding will support asset based approaches that draw on and help young people realise their potential and strengthen relationships in local communities. Through social action, young people can take practical steps to create positive change of benefit to the wider community as well as themselves. [[1]](#footnote-1)

Ambitious Communities programmes support young people to play a more active role within their local community and through participating, develop social and personal skills. Programmes and activities delivered by a range of organisations will help address negative perceptions of young people and influence the way different groups are viewed, benefiting young people and the families and communities of which they are a part. Unlike targeted work, it provides an approach which can increase understanding between residents of different ages and backgrounds, while increasing co-operation and greater tolerance.

The council is interested in providers with experience of, and the ability to, develop programmes with young people, which help bring people together to tackle a particular issue or make an improvement to an area.

Proposals should have a clearly identified purpose and be able to describe outcomes for young people as well as the wider community. Organisations should identify the approach to be taken to ensure effective engagement of young people and other stakeholders at all stages of the social action project. Any additional resources whether financial or non-financial that may contribute to its success should also be identified.

Organisations should have robust planning, delivery, review and evaluation systems and identify how young people will contribute at each stage.

**Lots**

The contract is not divided into lots, however, up to ten contracts may be awarded.

**TUPE [Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations]**

Potential providers must be aware that TUPE may or may not apply to this service. Further details will be available in the invitation to tender.

**Contract Period**

The contract period will be for 36 months from an estimated start date 01 June 2017 with options to extend up to a further 60 months.

**Contract Value**

The estimated total value of this contract is £480,000 over the maximum 96 months term of the contract . This is based on up to £60,000 per annum. The Council is looking to award a minimum of two and a maximum of ten contracts for this service. If the council receives a single tender for the maximum available budget, this will be rejected on the basis that we are looking for a minimum of two contracts (and a maximum of ten) to deliver the service. We are not looking to award only one contract for this service.

**Award criteria**

The contract will be awarded to the Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT) in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations. MEAT for this contract is quality 80% and cost 20%. Contracts will be awarded to between two and up to ten tenderers who achieve the highest combined cost and quality score. Further details will be provided in the invitation to tender.

**Cost 20%**

**Quality 80%**

**Cost made up of:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Affordability  | Unit cost per hour (pricing schedule) | 20% |

**Quality made up of:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Proposed approach to the delivery of work with young people  | 20% |
| Proposed approach to community engagement  | 20% |
| Proposed approach to programme development | 20% |
| Proposed approach to recording, review and evaluation |  20% |

**Total 100%**

Tenderers should be aware that we reserve the right to hold site visits and/or presentations and/or interviews during the tender process. Site visits and/or presentations and/or interviews will be for verification/clarification purposes of the written submission.

We reserve the right to interview leading bidders.

**Procurement Process**

This contract will be procured using the Open Procedure. The Open Procedure means that all bidders who successfully express an interest will automatically be invited to tender and have access to the tender documents. Those who submit a tender and meet the minimum requirements will have their full tender, method statements and pricing evaluated.

**How to express an interest**

If you wish to apply for this contract please follow the steps below:

Register your company free of charge via the **London Tenders Portal**.

Link: <https://www.londontenders.org/procontract/supplier.nsf/frm_home?openForm>

Await acceptance. You will receive an email confirming your username and password.

Use your username and password to log into the London Tenders Portal and express your interest in 1617- 0696 Ambitious Communities.

Shortly after you have expressed interest, you will receive a second email containing a link to access the tender documents.

**Deadlines**

The deadline for expressions of interest is: **11.59am, 12 May 2017**

Submission of Tender documents by: **12pm, 12 May 2017**

Late submissions will not be accepted.

**Additional information**

* We reserve the right to offer this contract to internal or external partners and other public sector and/or voluntary organisations.
* Islington Council and its partners are committed to work towards a ‘Fairer Islington’, for more information see www.islington.gov.uk.
* Please **do not** include any publicity material with your submissions.
* Islington Council aims to provide equality of opportunity and welcomes applicants who meet the qualitative selection criteria from black and minority ethnic communities and disabled groups.
* The Council encourages all types of organisation who meet the qualitative selection criteria including Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations, Social Enterprises or not for profit enterprises and small to medium enterprises (SME) to tender.
* Your submission will be marked in stages. Only applicants who meet the requirements at each stage will progress to the next stage. Further details will be contained in the tender documents.
* Please include the Contract Number of this tender process when communicating with the Council in any way.
* All questions relating to this contract should be raised via the question and answer section of the relevant contract on the London Tenders Portal. Please do not contact any officer of the council directly.
* Applicants are advised that all costs incurred either directly or indirectly in preparation, submission or otherwise related to this advertisement will be borne by them, and in no circumstances will the council be responsible for any such costs. Applicants are also advised that the council at its sole discretion acting reasonably and in good faith reserves the right to abandon the procurement at any stage prior to contract award.
* As part of a commitment to transparency the council is now publishing all spend over £500 each month. This includes spend on contracts, so the successful contractor should expect details of spend against the contract to appear on the council website [www.islington.gov.uk](http://www.islington.gov.uk/Council/councilworks/councilfinance/default.asp). The council is also committed to publishing tender and contract documentation after contract award stage. Commercially sensitive information will be redacted from documentation. What constitutes commercially sensitive information is a matter for the council’s sole discretion. However, tenderers will be invited to identify information they consider to be commercially sensitive in their tender return and this will be taken into account in the council forming a view.

1. The campaign for youth social action, Cabinet Office, presentation, page 6. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)