

1819-0029a The operation, delivery and facilities management of eleven (11) adventure playgrounds

Islington Council invites suitable expressions of interest from suppliers for the operation, delivery and facilities management of eleven (11) adventure playgrounds

Background

Adventure Playgrounds have been a key feature of play opportunities in Islington for over 45 years, reflecting the need for children to have access to play in a borough with the second lowest level of open space per head nationally. There are twelve (12) adventure playgrounds in Islington. All twelve (12) adventure playgrounds are protected in perpetuity for the benefit of children's play through Deeds of Dedication held between Islington Council and Fields in Trust.

The requirements of this adventure play contract will be based on the three overarching priorities that are key to the council's strategic objectives in its work with residents: to make Islington the best place for all young people to grow up, ensure our residents can lead healthy and independent lives and support more people into work.

The underpinning principles of the council's commitment to its residents are early intervention and prevention; people-centred services; strong partnerships; making every contact count; and being employment focussed. The council expects all commissioned providers to work to these principles. In the case of this contract, this means from the planning stages through to delivery and evaluation of the engagement with children and young people through quality adventure play.

In keeping with the council's Corporate Plan, this contract retains a particular focus on disadvantaged children, partnerships and engagement with the community and co-production with children and families.

In its budget for 2019-20¹, the council set out its intention to continue to support a comprehensive offer of adventure play across twelve (12) sites during term time and holiday periods. This will be secured through two (2) contracts:

- This contract will cover the following eleven (11) playgrounds:
 - Barnard Park
 - Cape
 - Cornwallis
 - Crumbles Castle
 - King Henry's Walk
 - Lumpy Hill
 - Martin Luther King
 - Timbuktu
 - Three Corners
 - Toffee Park

¹ <http://democracy.islington.gov.uk/documents/s7173/Budget%20Report%202016-17%20Executive%204%20Feb%202016.pdf>

- Waterside

The requirement

The services under this contract will be available for all children and young people across the borough and will engage with them through quality adventure play opportunities based on the Playwork Principles and developed through regular consultation, engagement, reflection, review and evaluation of services.

All adventure playgrounds will be free at the point of access, free for children to 'come and go'² and free for children to choose how they play.

Although the provider(s) will be required to present a business plan that may include some charged-for services and income generation opportunities, these activities must not impact on the core offer of adventure play procured through this contract.

The provider(s) will be expected to plan and develop a flexible and inclusive service that recognises the diverse demographics of Islington and how adventure playgrounds can continue to support and contribute to an integrated offer for children, young people and families. The council will expect the provider(s) to use feedback from user groups and stakeholders, as well as data collected about the demographics of the children and young people accessing the adventure playgrounds, to inform how the service is managed and developed.

Lots

This contract is not being split into lots due to a need for consistency across the eleven (11) adventure playgrounds.

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 October 2019 with four options to extend of 36 months each, up to a maximum extension of 144 months. The total contract period will be 180 months.

Contract Value

The estimated total value of this contract is £15.6 million over the maximum 180 months' term of the contract. This is based on £1.04 million per annum.

There is a maximum fixed budget for this service of £1.04 million per annum. Any bids over this amount will be disqualified.

Award criteria

² <http://www.playengland.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Open-access-play-provision.pdf>

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%. Further details will be provided in the invitation to tender.

20% Cost made up of:

1. Financial forecast in line with the length of the service contract	10%
2. Sustainability, including income generation, fundraising and resources in-kind	10%

80% Quality made up of:

3. Proposed approach to quality assurance including: proposed systems to ensure services are effectively reviewed and evaluated; reach across the local child and young person population; effective use of data available about service users to effectively plan and deliver the offer; effective communications and marketing	20%
4. Proposed approach to the delivery of playwork on adventure playgrounds in line with the Playwork Principles	10%
5. Proposed approach to safeguarding, early intervention and earliest help including: policies and procedures; staff training and development; holistic approaches to working with children and families in need of additional support	10%
6. Proposed approach to partnerships and integrated working (supported by evidence of extensive local knowledge and ability to engage with the local community) including: collaboration with local, regional and national organisations; coordination with other providers of adventure play and wider children's services including the Islington SEND Local Offer ³	10%
7. Proposed approach to facilities management, including buildings and the adventure playground environment	10%
8. Proposed business plan including objectives, strategies, marketing and income generation in line with the length of the service contract	10%
9. Proposed approach to contract mobilisation including continuity of service, community engagement, TUPE and staffing considerations, including employment and apprenticeships for local and young people	10%

Total 100%

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

The council reserves 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.

³ <http://directory.islington.gov.uk/kb5/islington/directory/localoffer.page?localofferchannelnew=0>

How to express an interest

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

Register your organisation free of charge via the link on the right hand side of this page under: 'Related Websites' **London Tenders Portal**.

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

Link: <https://procontract.due-north.com>

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 **1819-0029a The operation, delivery and facilities management of eleven (11) adventure playgrounds - 85000000-9 - Health and social work services.**

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

Deadlines

The deadline for expressions of interest is: **12 noon 6 May 2019**

Submission of Tender documents by: **12 noon 10 May 2019**

Late submissions will not be accepted.

Additional information

- 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 [Islington Council: Council contracts](#). 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.

