

2122-0032 Young Islington – universal youth work offer

Islington Council invites suitable expressions of interest from suppliers for 2122-0032 - Young Islington – universal youth work offer:

Current status / Background

Islington Council has a vision to mobilise the collective energy and resources of all partners across the borough to ensure all young people have equal access to opportunities and networks of support to help them enjoy their teenage years, thrive, be safe, enjoy good physical and mental health and realise their ambitions. To achieve this, Islington wants to make sure that all young people benefit from consistent and high-quality relationships with youth workers that support their social and emotional development. Those relationships support young people through the adolescent phase of their lives, and through exposing them to a range of experiences, opportunities and support, help them to develop resilience to cope with change and adversity and avoid negative pathways in future.

Islington offers a range of youth work services to young people delivered from various spaces across the borough, including Lift and Platform and Rose Bowl youth spaces.

The new Young Islington universal youth work offer has been developed which will be community focused, building sustainable networks across the borough with a shared and coherent vision linking into and building capacity amongst community youth providers and groups. The intention is that the new offer will draw in and convene a range of resources for the benefit of young people. The new offer will be made up of a number of elements, some of which are to be procured through this contract opportunity through four (4) lots, specifically:

- a central quality function that will support youth work and co-production across the offer, lead on understanding and communicating its outcomes and impact, shape cross-borough pieces of work and draw in additional resources to deliver them
- innovative and engaging youth work offer that is delivered from Lift and Rose Bowl youth spaces, including Summerversity, Launchpad and the Emotional Wellbeing (EWB) Service
- a Direct Access Social Prescribing Service
- innovative and engaging youth work that is delivered from Platform that also specialises in Youth Arts activity

The requirement

The council is seeking provider(s) who can:

Provider of lot 1

- Act as a champion of high-quality youth work across the borough, be the 'voice' of the sector and of young people.
- Develop cross-borough programmes of youth work, working closely with the providers of the other lots, the locality networks, professionals in targeted and specialist services and other relevant stakeholders to identify gaps, address inequalities and reach into the communities that may not be engaged currently.
- Provide a local focus of excellence for youth work, championing Islington at regional and national youth sector events and keying into regional and national support.
- Lead on the workforce development agenda; identifying an appropriate cross-borough approach to consistently ensuring high quality youth work across the offer in the context of delivering relationally-based, trauma-informed youth work with an emphasis on 'earliest' help where needed.
- Lead on capacity building for youth work in the borough, working with all partners in the new offer to develop cross-borough programmes and submit funding bids.
- Ensure consistency in the quality of services and support (e.g. through mentoring, buddying and reflective practice) and support adherence to shared quality standards across the partnership.
- Promote the voice of young people and the organisations that work with them. Advocate for young people's right to be visible and play a full role in the local community across a range of forums and to stakeholders including parents/carers, schools, funders and decision makers.
- Signpost young people and families to the whole of the youth offer and into other services that could help to meet their needs (health, education, family support services, etc.), as well as wider relevant universal services.
- Articulate and communicate the impact of quality youth work, amplify the stories and evidence of what has worked well as a result of the development of networks of organisations and communities working together.

Provider(s) of lots 2 and 3

- Develop, deliver and host a high quality, innovative and interconnected programme of youth work activities, spaces and multi-agency support services for young peoples' development.
- Provide significant additional social value, e.g. to support young people's employment.
- Work closely with the other providers and the three locality networks to shape and support the delivery of high quality youth work across the borough in line with the identified needs.
- Develop a close working relationship with Targeted Youth Support (TYS)¹ to ensure that disengaged and more at risk young people receive support they need at Lift, Rose Bowl and Platform.

- Be an 'outward facing' provision, which assertively seeks to engage young people who have not previously been reached by the universal youth work offer, through working with the locality networks as well as other community and grassroots groups.

Provider of lot 4

- Build on the learnings from the pilot phase of the service, identifying features of an effective social prescribing model to meet the wellbeing needs of young people within the 11-25 age range, intervening at the earliest point and with an additional focus on young people living with long-term or physical health conditions.
- Adopt a flexible approach to targeting of the service according to the recognised need locally, this may involve expanding or altering referral partners as the service develops.
- Divert inappropriate referrals from clinical mental health services and provide for un-met need through a non-clinical pathway focused around social and emotional wellness and prevention of mental ill-health.
- Continue to promote understanding of and support for social prescribing approaches to mild to moderate mental health needs among referring organisations, such as the importance of wellbeing conversations.
- Embed the service within the community, including informing and participating in the Locality Youth Networks to work collaboratively with other stakeholders.

Lots

- Lot 1: Young Islington: Youth work leadership, quality and impact
- Lot 2: Young Islington: Lift and Rose Bowl, Summerversity and the Emotional Wellbeing Service
- Lot 3: Young Islington: Platform
- Lot 4: Youth Islington: Direct Access Prescribing Service

To maximise the opportunities for competition, including bids from small to medium sized enterprises, tenderers may opt to bid for lots 1, 2 and/or 3. Lot 4 will be awarded as a separate contract to the bidder which successfully bids for lot 2. A tenderer will not be awarded lot 2 if they are unwilling or unable to deliver lot 4. Lot 4 cannot be bid for independently as a separate lot. Funding for lot 4 has only been secured for the first 12 month period. Tenders will be scored and a contract awarded for each lot of 1, 2 and 3 based on the highest combined quality and cost score for the individual lot, using the published award criteria. The Council reserves the right to not award any or all lots. The Council may also award any lot and/or lots to the next highest scoring bidder, in the event a tenderer does not have the capacity to deliver the lot and/or lots they have scored highest bidding for.

The intention is that this approach will allow the council to:

- secure an appropriate focus and level of expertise and experience across a wide range of functions
- ensure that the elements of the new offer are connected, work together in the interest of young people and support young people to mobilise and move beyond their individual services, buildings and offers

- ensure that as much of the capacity and assets available as possible are leveraged for the benefit of young people
- resource the support and capacity that will be required to mobilise, establish, sustain and grow the new model

Organisations may tender for one or more lots. The council reserves the right to award the contracts to one, two or three providers based on their tender submissions (method statements, pricing schedule and presentations)

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

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

Contract Period

The contract period for lots 1, 2 and 3 will be for 60 months from an estimated start date of 1 December 2021 with option to extend up to a further two (2) periods of up to 12 months each (2 x 12) subject to performance and the council's financial position.

The contract for lot 4 will be for 12 months from an estimated start date of 1 February 2022, with the option to extend up to a further six (6) periods of up to 12 months each (6 x 12), subject to funding availability.

Contract Value

The estimated total value of this contract for each lot over the maximum 84 months term of the contract:

Lot 1: Total maximum contract value of £1,050,000 should all extensions be implemented (maximum 84 months term). The total annual contract value for Lot 1 is £150,000.

There is a maximum fixed budget for this service of £150,000 per annum, excluding any income generation opportunities identified by the organisations bidding for this contract. Any bids that request over this amount from the council will be disqualified.

Lot 2: Total maximum contract value of £4,130,000 should all extensions be implemented (maximum 84 months term). The total annual contract value for Lot 2 is £590,000.

There is a maximum fixed budget for this service of £590,000 per annum over the whole contract term, excluding any income generation opportunities identified by the organisations bidding for this contract. Any bids that request over this amount from the council will be disqualified.

Lot 3: Total maximum contract value of £2,240,000 should all extensions be implemented (maximum 84 months term). The total annual contract value for Lot 3 is £320,000

There is a maximum fixed budget for this service of £320,000 per annum, excluding any income generation opportunities identified by the organisations bidding for this contract. Any bids that request over this amount from the council will be disqualified.

Lot 4: Total annual contract value of £70,000. Funding is currently secured until 31 January 2023, with the expectation to extend, subject to funding availability.

Award criteria

The contracts for lots 1, 2 and 3 will be awarded to the Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT) in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations. MEAT for this contract is quality 70% and cost 30%. Further details will be provided in the invitation to tender.

Cost 30%

1. Financial forecast in line with the length of the service contract including consideration of the COVID and post-COVID context	15%
2. Business model plan including income generation / fundraising details including consideration of the COVID and post-COVID context	15%

Quality 70%

1. Proposed approach to working as part of Young Islington including: working together to develop an engaging borough wide offer of provision for all Islington young people, as well young people who are vulnerable	10%
2. Proposed approach to contract mobilisation	10%
3. Proposed approach to delivery of outcomes for young people in the COVID and post COVID context	10%
4. Proposed approach to safeguarding, early intervention and earliest help in the COVID and post-COVID context	10%
5. Proposed approach to youth spaces including COVID security	10%
6 Proposed approach to delivering social value	20%

Total 100%

Tenderers should be aware that we reserve the right to hold presentations and/or interviews during the tender process. Presentations and/or interviews may 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://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 **2122-0032 -Young Islington – universal youth work offer 85000000: Health and social work services**

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 Wednesday 1 September 2021**

Submission of Tender documents by: **12 noon on Wednesday 1 September 2021**

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.

