**Soft Market Engagement Exercise for the provision and management of Temporary Accommodation/Private Sector Leasing**

Bromley engages a variety of schemes to meet its statutory responsibilities in respect of its homelessness services. In order to provide Temporary Accommodation for homeless households, Bromley contract a private sector leasing scheme via a managing agent. This is currently in the region of 150 properties located within and close to the borough of Bromley.

The contract with the current provider is due to expire, and with approx. 1000 families in expensive nighty booked accommodation, Bromley would like to engage the market and understand all options available to assist in providing more settled and suitable Temporary Accommodation pending further and more secure affordable accommodation.

The aim of this Soft Market Testing Exercise (the “SMTE”) is to engage with suppliers in an informal discussion and to;

1. Support the council in seeking all opportunities to increase the supply of good quality affordable housing.
2. Deliver Value for Money to the Council and reduce cost. The Council needs solutions that reduce costs but that also deliver quality of service.
3. To assist the Council to develop appropriate procurement documentation
4. See whether the market has experience of being involved in delivering similar services and what the appetite is to expand these services.

The Council is seeking views via a soft market testing exercise in order to explore and develop potential solutions and options with Providers to inform consideration of future commissioning and procurement options for these services.

To clarify, soft market testing means open and transparent discussions to inform a potential commissioning and procurement strategy. We appreciate all input from interested parties, although the Council is not obligated to proceed with a procurement process as an outcome of this exercise. The Council will not be responsible for any expense or loss which may be incurred by Providers in the preparation of these proposals. Responding to this document does not constitute an expression of interest for any future opportunity the Council may advertise.

**Dealing with Queries:** All queries regarding this document or requirements should be submitted via the London Tenders portal messaging section. The Council will share the question and response with other interested parties via the portal. The final deadline for queries is **24th January 2023**

**The completed questionnaire must be returned, together with supporting documents no later than 12.00 noon on Tuesday 31st January 2023** via the London Tenders portal.

**Questionnaire to be completed**

|  |
| --- |
| **Questions** |
| 1. Name of Organisation |
| **Response:** |
| 2. Name and position of individual completing this questionnaire |
| **Response:** |
| 3. Contact details |
| **Response:**  |
| 4. Do you have experience in the procurement and management of Temporary Accommodation/Private Sector Leasing for a Local Authority and is this a current service you provide? Please provide examples of the Local Authorities you work with.  |
| **Response:** |
| 5. If yes, is the expansion of those services part of your long-term business strategy? Briefly describe the portfolio size currently held by your organisation and planned growth of these portfolios.  |
| **Response:** |
| 6. Would you be willing to negotiate (if available) the current Providers property portfolio that are utilised as Temporary Accommodation for use by the council? Have you managed a previous exercise like this if so, can you describe this process? Please provide reasons as to why you may not look to negotiate the current provider property portfolio. |
| **Response:** |
| 7. Do you have experience in providing support and advice to those occupying Temporary Accommodation, can you describe services currently offered by your organisation?  |
| **Response:** |
| 9. What do you see as the key challenges and opportunities for both the procuring of available properties and ongoing management? |
| **Response:** |
| 10. Are there any market developments that you feel the Council should be aware of before we do a formal tender process?  |
| **Response:** |
| 11.Do you have any concerns that you would want us to address in a tender process?  |
| **Response:** |
| 12. What information would help you to submit a bid for a similar opportunity?  |
| **Response:** |