EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

SHORT BREAKS SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES

**Background**

In 2019, a full review of Knowsley’s Short Breaks commissioned service offer was completed and a service specification developed through consultation with parent/carers and providers.

The service specification aimed to improve the commissioned short breaks offer, increase capacity and improve outcomes for children and young people, and parent/carers. It contained 12 Lots, covering differing age groups, needs, and geographical locations; with activity sessions taking place during most school holidays and at term-time weekends:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Lot** | **Level of Need** | **Age Ranges** | **When** | **Location** |
| 1 | Core | 4-7 + 8-11 | School Holidays | North |
| 2 | Core | 11-14 + 15-19 | School Holidays | North |
| 3 | Core | 4-7 + 8-11 | School Holidays | Central |
| 4 | Core | 11-14 + 15-19 | School Holidays | Central |
| 5 | Core | 4-7 + 8-11 | Weekends | Not area-specific |
| 6 | Core | 11-14 + 15-19 | Weekends | Not area-specific |
| 7 | Enhanced | 4-7 + 8-11 | School Holidays | North |
| 8 | Enhanced | 11-14 + 15-19 | School Holidays | North |
| 9 | Enhanced | 4-7 + 8-11 | School Holidays | Central |
| 10 | Enhanced | 11-14 + 15-19 | School Holidays | Central |
| 11 | Enhanced | 4-7 + 8-11 | Weekends | Not area-specific |
| 12 | Enhanced | 11-14 + 15-19 | Weekends | Not area-specific |

**\*Core**: for those with less complex needs, with larger group sizes and lower staffing ratios

\*\***Enhanced**: for those with more complex needs, requiring smaller groups sizes and higher staffing ratios

The tender went out to providers within Lot 5 of the Pseudo Dynamic Purchasing System in December 2020. However, the tender only generated 2 compliant bids and ultimately the tender for Knowsley’s Short Breaks commissioned service was unsuccessful.

**April 2022**

Consequently, we are now looking to re-tender this opportunity, with the service to commence from April 2022. To help us understand the interest and any barriers from providers in bidding for this opportunity, we are seeking your opinion via this expression of interest. Please respond by no later than 13:00pm on the 18th August 202 via **The Chest (Pro-Contract) e-tendering system at** [**www.the-chest.org.uk**](http://www.the-chest.org.uk)

1. Does your organisation currently deliver short breaks services for children with disabilities?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Yes  |  |
| No |  |

1. Is this tender opportunity of interest to your organisation?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Yes  |  |
| No |  |
| If No, please comment. |  |

1. Does the 12 Lots as outlined above appeal to your organisation in submitting a bid?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Yes  |  |
| No |  |
| If No, please comment. |  |

1. Would the below Lot allocation be more preferable?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Lot** | **Level of Need** | **Age Ranges** | **When** | **Location** |
| 1 | Core | 4-7 + 8-11 | School Holidays | Not area-specific |
| 2 | Core | 11-14 + 15-19 | School Holidays | Not area-specific |
| 3 | Core | 4-7 + 8-11 | Weekends | Not area-specific |
| 4 | Core | 11-14 + 15-19 | Weekends | Not area-specific |
| 5 | Enhanced | 4-7 + 8-11 | School Holidays | Not area-specific |
| 6 | Enhanced | 11-14 + 15-19 | School Holidays | Not area-specific |
| 7 | Enhanced | 4-7 + 8-11 | Weekends | Not area-specific |
| 8 | Enhanced | 11-14 + 15-19 | Weekends | Not area-specific |

For Lots 1,2,5 and 6 we would expect to see the service offer replicated across a minimum of two areas within the borough. i.e. a 4-7 + 8-11 group/s in both the North and Central areas of the borough.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Yes  |  |
| No |  |
| If No, please comment. |  |

1. Provision of Lots for those aged under-8 year old, providers should be appropriately registered with the regulatory body (Ofsted) on either or both of the Early Years and Childcare register, or an evidenced exemption be in place. Would this be barrier to submitting a bid?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Yes  |  |
| No |  |
| If Yes, please comment. |  |

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

**Timescales**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Procurement Activity** | **Target Date** |
| Procurement - Publish RFQ/Tender on the Chest | 06/09/2021 |  |
|  |
| Closing date for questions  | 01/10/2021 |  |
|  |
| Evaluator training and information session | 22/09/2021 |  |
|  |
| Procurement issue conflict of interest forms to evaluation panel members | 22/09/2021 |  |
| ITT Return Date | 06/10/2021 |  |
| Evaluation panel to read and assess submissions | 06/10/2021 |  |
| Moderation meeting  | 20/10/2021 |  |
|  |
| Clarification meeting (if required) | 27/10/2021 |  |
| Contract Report | 01/11/2021 |  |
| Draft Cabinet Member report (circulate draft to relevant staff for approval) | 06/12/2021 |  |
| Cabinet Member approval | 06/12/2021 |  |
|  |
| Standstill period | 07/12/2021 |  |
|  |
| Issue award letter | 17/12/2021 |  |
|  |
| Contract implementation and mobilisation period | 01/01/2022 |  |
|  |
| Contract commences | 01/04/2022 |  |

We would like to arrange future workshops to discuss the Short Breaks offer further. If you are interested in attending, please provide contact details below:

|  |
| --- |
| **Name:** |
| **Organisation:** |
| **Email address:** |
| **Contact number:**  |

For more opportunities within Knowsley and surrounding areas, please consider joining the[**Pseudo Dynamic Purchasing System (PDPS) for Support Services for Children, Young People & Families for Merseyside-Cheshire**](https://procontract.due-north.com/Advert?advertId=1519f384-31d4-e611-80da-005056b64545&p=e0cc5631-4690-e511-80fb-000c29c9ba21)