

2122-0282-A The provision of building based early education, childcare services to children and their parents/carers – Paradise Park Children’s Centre, N7

Islington Council invites suitable expressions of interest from suppliers for the provision of building based early education, childcare and early childhood services to children and their parents/carers at Paradise Park Children’s Centre (CC).

Background

The opportunity for the contract for the provision of services at Paradise Park CC included in the contract notice for “2122-0282 The provision of building based early education, childcare and early childhood services to children and their parents/carers” is still available.

The current contract was commissioned between 2016-2017 to deliver the provision of early education services and hosting a range of Bright Start Islington services for families from pregnancy to age five. The service at Paradise Park CC is hosted from a building owned by Islington Council or leased by Islington Council. The current contract is due to end on 31 October 2023.

The requirement

This service will provide high quality, inclusive early education and childcare to children under five years old. Providers must have previous recent experience of delivering Ofsted-registered, high quality early education and childcare to meet the minimum requirements for this tender and will need to evidence this.

The provider will have a sound knowledge of working within the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework and contribute to the outcomes as identified within the specification.

The provider will need to have a strong governance structure in place and a finance team which is able to oversee and monitor the appropriate use of a complex set of funding streams from the Council and Department for Education.

The provider will understand and adhere to all safeguarding and child protection requirements as set out by the London Safeguarding Children’s Board and comply with local safeguarding processes.

The provider will work closely with a variety of council officers, health and voluntary sector partners in order to deliver the service, including (for example), Bright Start early childhood multi-agency teams, special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) team, safeguarding and finance officers, and the Family Information Service (FIS). Multi-disciplinary working is essential for delivering outcomes for children and their families.

The anticipated start date for this contract is 1 November 2023.

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 of 1 November 2023 with options to extend for two (2) periods of up to 24 months each (maximum 84 months).

Contract Value

It should be noted that funding is indicative. It is based on the annual Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) grant from the Department for Education and therefore may change. The estimated total indicative value of this contract is £4,328,408 over the maximum 84 months term of the contract. This is based on the funding identified below:

- Core council subsidy budget and Bright Start hosting
- DSG funding
- Parental income targets

Council funding	Bright Start hosting	DSG – 2 years old	DSG - 3 and 4 years old	Parental income target	Total
£222,096	£33,188	£24,235	£87,802	£251,023	£618,344

The hosting budget is subject to review and based on the needs of Bright Start Islington. The hosting budget is dependent on a few factors including percentage of receptionist time (role partly funded Bright Start), square footing usage, and utilities. Further details can be found under section 5 service delivery in the specification.

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 70% and cost 30%. Further details will be provided in the invitation to tender.

Cost 30%

Quality 70%

Quality made up of:

Proposed approach to social value 20%

Proposed approach to implementation and service model 10%

Proposed approach to outcomes and outputs 10%

Proposed approach to partnership working 10%

Proposed approach to the Early Years Foundation Stage 10%

Proposed approach to contract management including governance, finance and financial management 10%

Total 100%

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

Procurement Process

As the value of the contract is above the threshold for wider advertising of the opportunity, a contract notice will be published on Find a Tender Service and Contracts Finder.

This procurement will be conducted in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 under Chapter 3 Section 7 Social and Other Specific Services (known as the “light touch” regime). Under Regulation 76 the council is free to establish a procedure, provided the procedure is sufficient to ensure compliance with the principles of transparency and equal treatment of economic operators (service providers).

The procedure the Council has designed is based on the open procedure but with the option for an element of negotiation (if required). All economic operators (service providers) who successfully express an interest will automatically have access to the tender documents. Standard pre-selection questions will be part of the tender response and will need to be passed before the evaluation of quality and cost. Further details will be available in the procurement documents.

The council reserves the right to award the contract on the basis of the evaluation of initial tenders without negotiation where this offers value for money. The council reserves the right to not award the contract if the received tenders do not offer value for money.

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](#).
- Await acceptance. You will receive an email confirming your username and password.
- Use your username and password to log on to the London Tenders Portal and express your interest in 2122-0282-A The provision of building based early education, childcare services to children and their parents/carers – Paradise Park Children’s Centre, N7. Category 85000000: Health and social work services; 80000000: Education and training 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 on Thursday 1 June 2023.

Submission of Tender documents by: 12 noon on Thursday 1 June 2023.

Late submissions will not be accepted.

Additional information

- Islington Council and its partners are committed to create a more equal Islington where everyone is able to thrive. For more information see <https://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, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities, and disabled groups.
- The council encourages all types of organisation who meet the qualitative selection criteria including Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) organisations, not for profit enterprises, and small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) to tender.
- Your submission will be marked in the order set out in the tender documents. Further details including minimum requirements 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 considered in the council forming a view.