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**Preliminary Market Engagement Brief**

**Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDs)**

**Project Reference T101/2024**

1. **Introduction**

**Overview of the Pioneer Group**

The Pioneer Group is a partnership of people and organisations who have come together to enable people and communities to thrive. We use our years of collective regeneration expertise to help people and communities flourish in an ever-changing social and economic landscape. Working closely with other local partners, service providers and stakeholders, we deliver community-driven, bespoke traditional and non-traditional housing solutions, and essential support services such as youth, family support, health and employment.

The Pioneer Group family members are:

**Castle Vale Community Housing**

Castle Vale Community Housing (CVCH) is a brand name for housing and community services provided by the Pioneer Group.

**Compass Support**

Compass Support provides services targeting young people, families, vulnerable groups and older people from their base at The Sanctuary. They began as youth work providers but have grown their remit and locations.

We are a value-driven charitable organisation:

* We are community and customer focused
* We are innovative, making good things happen
* We always deliver quality, and achieve value for money
* We act with integrity and take personal responsibility
* We treat people with dignity and respect

Our Strategic Goals:

* Provide great homes and excellent services
* Help people to reach their true potential
* Empower communities and identify community driven solutions
* Build a strong and value driven organisation

You can read more about the Group [**here**](https://www.pioneergroup.org.uk/)

1. **Overview of the Requirement**

It has been established that Castle Vale is in a flood zone. A flood risk assessment found that around 1,500 of our properties are at risk of river, surface or ground water flooding. We then had business and community plans created to make our tenants and staff aware of the risk and inform them of the process they should follow if there is ever an event. Following on from the risk assessment, it was recommended that we look into flood prevention measures to reduce the damage and tenant risk if the estate floods. We looked into flood gates and doors however, as we have 1,500 properties to cover this doesn’t seem like the best route to take. This led us to explore the opportunity for sustainable drainage systems (SuDs).

We would like to know if SuDs is an option on Castle Vale. To explore this option further we are conducting a Preliminary Market Engagement process.

1. **Objectives of this Preliminary Market Engagement**

The objectives of this Preliminary Market Engagement are to:

* Evaluate the opportunity for SuDs
* Discuss supply, solution and technology options for installation and long term monitoring of SuDs
* Determine market capacity and drivers
* Establish potential interest in any procurement opportunities that may be identified as a result of this Preliminary Market Engagement
* Assist with budget planning
* Explore the potential for innovation and added value
* Establish key risks, constraints and opportunities
* Shape the content of the tender documentation for any procurement that Pioneer may issue following this Preliminary Market Engagement
1. **Preliminary Market Engagement Process**

This Preliminary Market Engagement process shall be conducted via a 1-hour Teams meeting with Participants on the following dates:

* Week commencing 26th February 2024
* Week commencing 4th March 2024

A limited number of meeting slots are available. Meetings shall be allocated on a first come first served basis to Interested Parties responding to this Brief.

Interested Parties wishing to attend shall register their interest by no later than 12.00 hours on Friday 16th February 2024 to our appointed Procurement Advisors, Clarity Procurement Solutions:

nathan@clarityprocurement.co.uk

Interested Parties shall also indicate the names and positions of those wishing to attend.

Subject to availability, meeting dates shall be confirmed to Participants on Monday 19th February 2024. A copy of the flood risk assessment will be shared with Participants

1. **Important Notes**

In accordance with Regulation 40 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, the deliverables from this Preliminary Market Engagement may be used in the planning and conduct of the future Service procurement procedure, provided that it does not have the effect of distorting competition and does not result in a violation of the principles of non-discrimination and transparency.

Where a Participant has advised Pioneer, whether in the context of this Preliminary Market Engagement or not, or has otherwise been involved in the preparation of the procurement procedure, Pioneer shall take appropriate measures to ensure that competition is not distorted by the participation of that Participant.

Such measures shall include:

* The communication to the other Participants and Bidders of relevant information exchanged in the context of or resulting from the involvement of the Participant in the preparation of the procurement procedure
* The fixing of adequate time limits for the receipt of tenders

Participants shall only be excluded from the procurement procedure where there are no other means to ensure compliance with the duty to treat economic operators equally in accordance with regulation 18(1) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

Prior to any such exclusion, Participants shall be given the opportunity to prove that their involvement in preparing the procurement procedure is not capable of distorting competition.

Participants shall bear their own costs and under no circumstances whatsoever shall Pioneer become liable for any participation costs associated with this Preliminary Market Engagement. Pioneer shall similarly not be liable in the event that a procurement process following this Preliminary Market Engagement is not undertaken, whatever the reason.

1. **Definitions**

“Bidder” – shall refer to the organisations formally invited to participate in the Tender

“Pioneer” shall refer to the Pioneer Housing and Community Group

“Interested Parties” shall refer to providers who express an interest in participating in this Preliminary Market Engagement

“Participants” shall refer to the providers that Pioneer has invited to participate in this Preliminary Market Engagement

“Preliminary Market Engagement” shall refer to this process, undertaken in accordance with Regulations 40 and 41 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015

“Tender” shall refer to any Tender that Pioneer may issue following this Preliminary Market Engagement