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|  | Reference | IGF221025 |
|  | Phone: | 07843082246 |
| E-mail: | joanna.wilson@lbbd.gov.uk |
|  |  |

Dear Sir/Madam,

##### Invitation to quote for research and engagement for Barking Food School

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| --- | --- |
| **DEADLINE FOR RETURN OF QUOTES:** | Monday 19th December 2022 |
| QUOTATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE STATED CLOSING DATE AND TIMEWILL NOT BE CONSIDERED |

This document consists of:

Section 1: Instructions/Conditions for Quoting

Section 2: Statements of Requirements and Method Statements

Section 3: Award Criteria

Section 4: Conditions of Contract

You are reminded that failure to send a full submissionmay result in your quotation being excluded from consideration.

Your quotation submission must comprise of one electronic copy (email), **To arrive before 23:59 on 19/12/2022 to** **joanna.wilson@lbbd.gov.uk**

Any quotation received after the deadline date and time **will not** be considered.

The information supplied by the Council, is provided for general guidance in the preparation of the quotes. Contractors must satisfy themselves, by their own investigations, with regard to the accuracy of any such information, and the Council accepts no responsibility for any inaccurate information obtained by contractors.

Should any additions or amendments, to any of the quotation documents or additional information, be considered necessary by the Council, prior to the date of the submission of the quotes, these will be issued to all tenderers in writing.

The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any part of any quotation and will make its decision based on the most economically advantageous quote received.

The tender will be assessed on a 80% quality, 20% cost effectiveness basis. The three highest scoring bids from the method statement and budget submissions will be invited to interview (which will make up 10% of the 80% allocated for quality). The presentations will take place on afternoons of Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th January 2023.

If your organisation has any queries, these should be addressed to Jo Wilson labelled “Quote Clarification” to email: joanna.wilson@lbbd.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Jo Wilson

Food Sector Development Lead

London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

SECTION 1 – INSTRUCTIONS FOR QUOTING

##### REQUEST FOR QUOTE FOR THE PROVISION OF RESEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT FOR BARKING FOOD SCHOOL

1. **Invitation to Provide a Quotation**

* 1. The London Borough of Barking and Dagenham (LBBD) invites quotes for the provision of research and engagement to support the curriculum development for the Barking Food School. In accordance with this Request for quote, these conditions of contract and your completed quote.

# Basis of Quotation

* 1. A contract will be awarded to the most economically advantageous tender, applying criteria section 3**.**

1. **Information, Costs and Expenses**
	1. The bidder is responsible for obtaining all information necessary for preparing its quote and shall bear all costs, expenses and liabilities incurred in connection with its preparation and delivery.
2. **Research and Investigation**
	1. The bidder is deemed for all purposes relating to its quote, the conditions of contract and the Statement of Requirements to have read and understood them, to have carried out all necessary researches, investigations and enquiries at its own expense and to have satisfied itself as to the nature, extent and character of the services and access to and use of the locations (if applicable), the extent of the premises, employees, materials, equipment and machinery which may be required, and any other matter which may affect its quote.
	2. The bidder shall have no claim against LBBD in respect of the matters mentioned in this condition. In particular (but without limitation) the Council shall make no payments to the bidder/contractor except as expressly provided for in the Contract, and no compensation or remuneration shall be payable by the Council because the nature, extent or character of the Services is different from that envisaged by the bidder/contractor.

# Further Information, Queries and Clarification

* 1. The bidder may contact joanna.wilson@lbbd.gov.uk as the single point of contact, to request any reasonable information or raise any query relating to this Request for Quote, the Statement of Requirement or Conditions of Contract. Your requests for further information must be submitted electronically as specified in this document. Any such request or query must be received by must be received by 5pm on **13/12/2022**
	2. joanna.wilson@lbbd.gov.uk shall be the single contact for all enquiries in relation to this invitation. You are therefore required to direct **all** enquiries to the named contact.
	3. The council shall endeavour to provide such information or clarify such query and shall advise all bidders of any information provided to a bidder as a result of any such request within the stated time period but does not bind itself to do so within the stated time period or at all. A copy of the query and answer may be provided to all bidders at the Council’s sole discretion.
	4. If a bidder has difficulty in complying with any specific provision of this Request for Quote, or wishes to propose any amendment to them, it should provide all information and evidence concerning the same as may require. LBBD may, at its discretion, consider the matter and may waive or amend the relevant provision without prejudice to all or any other provisions of the Request for Quote or any rights or powers of the Council. No such waiver or amendment shall bind LBBD unless it is in writing and signed by the Council's Director of Corporate Services.
1. **Acknowledgement of Request for Quote**
	1. Bidders shall, immediately on receipt of this Request for Quotation, submitan acknowledgement response by email to joanna.wilson@lbbd.gov.uk to inform LBBD whether they intend or do not intend to submit a quote for this work.
	2. Please note if you decide not to quote, please delete all documentation from your system.
2. **Lodgement of Quote**
	1. This quote will be administered electronically via email.

Note – references to the word ‘signed’ here can include either an electronic ‘signature’ of the bidder or if preferred a scanned copy of the required document to be ‘signed’ is acceptable. If your bid is successful, you may be later required to submit to LBBD within a reasonable time an original of the signed copy of the document.

* 1. Your response **must** include as a minimum:

* Your ‘signed’ Quotation and Declaration. In the format set out at Section 5. Your bid is required to remain open for acceptance by LBBD for a minimum of 90 days from the date stated above for final submission of quotes.
* Your completed Quotation Document addressing the requirement set out in the Statement of Requirements. Your Quotation Document shall include all relevant information (including if required completed Method Statements) to allow the council to assess your suitability for the supply of the Services.

**8.** **Signature of Quote**

8.1 The Quote must be signed:

* + 1. where the bidder is an individual, by that individual;
		2. where the bidder is a partnership, by two authorised partners;
		3. where the Bidder is a company, by two directors, or by a director and the secretary of the company, such persons being authorised for that purpose;

8.2 The bidder shall produce forthwith on the request of LBBD documentary evidence of any authorisation referred to above**.**

**9** **Non-consideration of Form of Quote**

9.1 In its absolute discretion, LBBD may refrain from considering a quote if:

* + 1. there are omissions in the quote and/or the Method Statements (if required);
		2. it is not in accordance with these conditions
		3. the bidder makes or attempts to make any variation or alteration to the Contract accept in accordance with paragraph five of these Conditions

**10** **Rejection of Quote**

10.1 The Council shall reject a Quote, without prejudice to any other civil remedies available to the Council or any criminal liability the Bidder may attract, if the Bidder:

* + 1. fixes or adjusts the prices shown in its quote by or in accordance with any agreement or arrangement with any other person or by reference to any other quote; or
		2. communicates to any person other than the Council the amount or approximate amount of the prices shown in its quote, except where such communication is made in confidence in order to obtain quotations necessary for the preparation of the quote or for the purposes of obtaining the necessary insurance, Bond Undertaking or Guarantee Undertaking; or
		3. agrees with any other person that such other person shall refrain from submitting a Quote or shall limit, restrict or reduce the prices to be shown by any other Bidder in its Quote; or
		4. offers or agrees to pay or give, or does pay or give any sum of money, inducement or valuable consideration directly or indirectly to any person for doing or having done, or for causing or having caused to be done any act of omission in relation to any other Bidder or any other person's proposed Quote; or
		5. in connection with the award of the Contract, commits an offence under the Prevention of Corruption Acts 1889 to 1916 or the Bribery Act 2010 or gives any fee or reward the receipt of which is an offence under section 117(2) Local Government Act 1972; or
		6. has directly or indirectly canvassed any member or officer of LBBD concerning the acceptance of any Quote or has directly or indirectly obtained or attempted to obtain Confidential Information or any information from any such member or officer or any contractor engaged in providing services to the Council concerning any other Bidder or Quote submitted by any other Bidder.

**11** **Acceptance of Form of Quote**

11.1 The Council is not bound to accept the lowest or any Quote and reserves to itself the right at its absolute discretion to accept or not accept any Quote.

* 1. An acceptance of a Quote by the Council shall be delivered electronically to the successful Bidder and the Contract shall then be made and become binding. Unsuccessful bidders shall be notified electronically promptly thereafter.
	2. The Contract shall then comprise the following documents: -
* This Request for Quote, the Instructions/Conditions of quoting, the Statement of Requirement, the completed Bidder Information and Method Statements (if required), the completed Form of Quote, the Conditions of Contract (see Section 6 below), the Council’s formal Notification of Acceptance to the successful Bidder’s of LBBD’s acceptance of his Quote (including any agreed communications specifically referred to therein) and the Council’s Official Purchase Order (the ‘Contract Documents’)
* Note – No Goods and/or Services are to be supplied under the Contract unless and until the Council delivers to the successful Bidder an Official Purchase Order specifying the amount and/or type of Goods to be supplied, delivered and (if required) installed and/or the nature and duration of the Services to be performed in accordance with the Contract Documents.
* References to ‘Contract Standard’ mean as a minimum such standard as complies in each and every particular with the Contract Documents.

12  **Confidentiality and Freedom of Information Act 2000**

12.1 The Quote and Declaration and (if applicable Method Statements) and the documentation issued by the Council to the bidder relating to the Request for Quote and/or the Goods and/or Services shall be treated by the Bidder as being private and confidential for use only in connection with the quote and any resulting contract and shall not be disclosed in whole or in part to any third party without the prior written consent of the Council.

12.2 The Contract and all copies are and shall remain the property of the Council and must not be copied or reproduced in whole or in part, save for the Contractor's own purposes in supplying, delivering and (if applicable installing) the required Goods and/or supplying the required Services, and must be returned to the Council on demand.

12.3 Attention is drawn to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Act requires greater access for the public to information currently considered as confidential. A draft code of practice issued by the Information Commissioner states that *“public authorities should not agree to hold information in confidence which is in fact not confidential in nature any acceptance of confidentiality must be for good reasons and capable of being justified to the commissioner”*. The Act places a duty on public bodies to adopt publication schemes.

13. **Warranties**

13.1 In delivering a Quote, the Bidder warrants and represents to the Council that:

* + 1. it has not done any of the acts or matters referred to in Number 10.1 a-f and has complied in all respects with, these Conditions of Quoting;
		2. all information, representations and other matters of fact communicated (whether in writing or otherwise) to LBBD by the Bidder or its employees or officers in connection with or arising out of the Quote are true, complete and accurate in all respects;
		3. it has made its own investigations and research and has satisfied itself in respect of all matters relating to the Quote and Statement of Requirements and has not delivered the Form of Quote and will not have entered into the Contract in reliance on any information, representations or assumptions (whether made orally, in writing or otherwise) which may have been made by LBBD;
		4. it has full power and authority to enter into the Contract and supply deliver and (if required) install the specified Goods and/or provide the specified Services and will if requested produce evidence of that to LBBD;
		5. it is of sound financial standing and its officers and employees are not aware of any circumstances (other than as may be disclosed in the audited accounts or other financial statements submitted) which may adversely affect its financial standing in the future;
		6. it has and will have sufficient working capital, skilled employees, equipment, machinery and other resources available to it to supply deliver and (if required) install the specified Goods and/or provide the specified Services in accordance with the Contract and to the Contract Standard for the Contract Period; and
		7. it has obtained all necessary consents, licences and permissions to enable it to supply deliver and (if required) install the Goods and/or perform the Services and will throughout the Contract Period obtain and maintain all further and other necessary consents, licences and permissions to enable it to perform the Services.

**14.** **Proposed Timetable**

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| --- | --- |
| **Key Milestones** | **Date** |
| Issue Request for Quotes (RFQ) | Monday 21 Nov 2022 |
| Deadline for questions  | Tuesday 13th December 2022 |
| Quotes return date | Monday 19th December 2022 |
| Assessment of Quotes | Thursday 12th January 2023 |
| Interviews | Tuesday 17th / Thursday 19th January 2023 |
| Contract Award | W/b 6th February |
| Contract Commencement  | W/b 20th February 2023. |

SECTION 2 - *SERVICE SPECIFICATION*

1. **Provider characteristics**
	1. We are looking for a provider or providers to conduct a piece of research to support the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham to develop a vision, priorities and plan for a more sustainable local food system, with a view to increasing access to nutritious, affordable and sustainable food. We welcome collaborative bids, particularly where they enable a combination of local and national expertise. Specifically, we are looking for a provider with:
* Demonstrable understanding of the context of Barking and Dagenham, the London-wide hospitality industry and skills gaps/inclusion issues within the industry.
* Demonstrable expertise and knowledge of developing food-based FE curriculums and skills pathways to good food jobs.
* Demonstrable hospitality industry networks and willingness to support LBBD to forge sustainable connections.
* A clear plan to work collaboratively with the Council to ensure the project delivers the desired outputs and information within the project timescale.
1. **Objectives**

The purpose of this research is to:

* Understand the food sector skills gap, particularly around world cuisine and innovative approaches to low-waste, low-carbon restaurants/catering.
* Develop links with industry that could lead to ongoing involvement with the Food School e.g. offering placements as part of our schools programmes or the FE/HE programmes of our partners, guest speakers on courses, financial or promotional support of the Food School.
* Develop a suite of courses that speak to the skills gaps identified by the industry and that will help our young people access exciting, well-paid jobs in the industry.

**Please see document titled “Tender – BD Food School: Industry Links and Course Development” for more information.**

1. **Budget, Timescales and Reporting Arrangements**
	1. The budget for this project is approx. £40,000 including VAT. We are looking for a quality (80%) and value for money (20%) proposal. From the tenders submitted, the three with the highest marks will be selected and undergo an interview, in which the appropriate provider will be selected.
	2. Please provide a response to the bid that explains how you meet the desired ‘provider characteristics’, including a detailed method statement, a budget, and timelines for delivery. The questions you will be assessed on are set out in the table below.

Submit to joanna.wilson@lbbd.gov.uk by no later than **19/12/2022**

* 1. We will select the highest scoring tenderers based on the method statement and budget submission no later than 12th January 2023 and will hold presentations/interviews on the afternoons of Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th January 2023. Interviewees will be asked to provide a short (10 minute) overview of the key features of and rationale for their proposed approach.
	2. We aim to hold the project kick off meeting on w/b 6th February 2023 and start by w/b 20th February 2023.
	3. We estimate the project will take up to six months to complete, with findings presented by the end of September 2023. A suggested timetable is set out below.

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| --- | --- |
| Meeting | Date |
| Project Initiation Meeting | W/b 20-Feb-23 |
| Project Meeting 1 | 07-Mar-23 |
| Project Meeting 2 | 28-Mar-23 |
| Project Meeting 3 | 18-Apr-23 |
| Project Meeting 4 | 09-May-23 |
| Project Meeting 5 | 30-May-23 |
| Project Meeting 6 | 20-Jun-23 |
| Project Meeting 7 | 18-Jul-23 |
| Project Meeting 8 | 22-Aug-23 |
| Project Meeting 9 | 12-Sep-23 |
| Project Meeting 10 | 26-Sep-23 |
| Project Evaluation Meeting | 10-Oct-23 |

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| **4. Evaluation criteria** As part of the process in choosing the right provider to work with, the Council would like interested parties to respond to the following questions in their bid.

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| --- | --- |
| **Questions** | **Total Score:70** |
| **1.** | **Understanding**  | Max score: 20 |
| Describe your understanding of the research context, goals and desired outcomes – highlighting any challenges and opportunities.  |
| **2.** | **Methodology**  | Max score: 20 |
| Describe how you will approach the work, including a detailed methodology that meets the research objectives and explains how you will engage the food industry and local training partners to develop the recommended approach, priorities and activities. |
| **3.** | **Expertise** | Max score: 20 |
| Describe any expertise, knowledge and experience that will enable you/your organisation to develop effective industry partnerships and food-based FE curriculums and skills pathways to good food jobs.  |
| 4. | **Project management** | Max score: 10 |
| Describe how you will work with the council to ensure the project meets its objectives, including who will oversee and conduct the work, the support and information you would need from the council to best enable you to carry out this work, and a proposed timeline for delivery. |

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1. **Pricing**

 We have included a budget template in the application form to set out the budget in your bid.

* 1. Quoted prices must be fully inclusive of all staff/management costs and on costs, overheads, expenses, and any other expected costs associated with the service. No mark-up will be permitted, in any circumstances on any tendered rate and no additional payment of any kind will be made.

5.2 Any prices quoted should be inclusive of all expenses. Please include the price both before and after Value Added Tax (VAT).

5.3 Acceptance of the quote is based on all components of the pricing schedule being completed. Where not applicable please put N/A.

**5.4 Contractors should be aware that during the period of the contract price will not be increased. Contractors, therefore, need to take this into consideration when completing the pricing schedule in order to ensure a sustainable service.**

**Please note: The Council has a budget of a maximum of £40,000 including VAT for this work.**

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SECTION 3 - *AWARD CRITERIA*

1. **Tender evaluation criteria**

1.1 This section explains the basis on which the tender will be evaluated. Tenderers are asked to submit their quote strictly in accordance with the instructions detailed in this document. This provides Bidders with a common framework for their proposal to simplify its evaluation. It also provides the approach to be taken to weighting and scoring each question.

1.2 The evaluation panel will undertake independent evaluation of responses and thereafter, a moderation meeting will be held at which time the evaluation panel will reach a consensus score.

* 1. The Contract will be awarded based on the most economically advantageous tender (MEAT) in accordance with the evaluation and scoring methodology detailed below.

The evaluation criteria is:

 **Table 1:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CRITERIA** | **EVALUATION METHOD** | **PERCENTAGE****SCORE** |
| Quality  | Quality assessment of the Method Statement Presentation and Interview | 70%10% |
| Price | Pricing Schedule Submission  | 20% |

**2 Evaluation of Quality by means of Method Statement Questions**

2.1 As detailed in the documentation, Method Statements detailing your proposed organisational and operational arrangements must be submitted as part of your quote. The purpose of the Method Statements are to satisfy the Council that the Tenderer has the ability, capacity and management controls in place to operate the Contract in an efficient and cost effective manner.

2.2 It is mandatory that the provider responds to all the questions in the order given. Responses should be precise with references to accompanying literature kept to a minimum. If the bidder is unable to comply with any aspect of the requirement it should say so and provide a brief explanation of why it cannot be met.

2.3 Once agreed, the provisional Method Statements will become Approved Method Statements and will form part of the Contract. The Approved Method Statements will be monitored throughout the Contract to ensure compliance and shall define how the Contractor will manage and deliver the service throughout the Contract.

2.4 The Approved Method Statements shall be continually upgraded and improved to meet the developing needs of the service.

2.5 Scoring Methodology - Quality (80%) score will be made up of:

**Table 1:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Provision** | **Weighting**  |
| Describe your understanding of the context, goals and desired outcomes of this work – highlighting any challenges and opportunities. | 20% |
| Describe your expertise and knowledge about food industry skills and training needs – including examples of any relevant work or projects in this area. | 20% |
| Describe how you will approach the research, including a detailed methodology that responds to the brief and explains how you will engage local academic and training partners, and the London-wide food industry, to develop the recommended approach, priorities and activities.  | 20% |
| Describe how you will work with the council to ensure the project meets its objectives within the timescale, including who will oversee and conduct the work, the support and information you would need from the council to best enable you to carry out this work and the proposed timeline for the research. | 10% |
| Presentation/ interview | 10% |
| *TOTAL*  | *80%* |

3. Within the qualitative evaluation, each Method Statement will be weighted from the maximum % as outlined in the method statement (attached)

And score from 0-10 whereby:

**Table 2:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Score range**  | **Basis of score** |
| 0 | **Unacceptable:** Method statement unanswered  |
| 1 -2 | **Poor:** very limited responses provided to method statement, answering question poorly |
| 3-4 | **Below expectations:** The response only partially addresses the method statement. A below expectation response. |
| 5-6 | **Satisfactory:** An adequate response to the method statement, but a lack of detail which reduces the quality of the answer. |
| 7-8 | **Good:** A good response submitted in terms of detail and relevance which meets the requirements in most areas/all areas |
| 9-10 | **Superior:** exemplar and exhaustive answers which address every aspect of the method statement and meet or exceeds the requirements in all areas. |

3.1 Tenderer’s scores for individual method statements will be calculated by dividing the tenderers actual score by the maximum obtainable score per section and then multiplying this by the % weighting allocated for each quality element).

3.2 Tenderer’s overall score for the methods statement section will be calculated by dividing the Tenderers total weighted score by the maximum obtainable weighted score and then multiplying this by the 70% allocated. See example of formula below:

 See example formula below:

 Tenderer’s total weighted score X 70

 Maximum obtainable weighted score

4. The highest scoring 3 bids will then undergo the interview/ presentation process, in which the quality of the interview (10%) will be incorporated into the overall score for quality before being combined with the price element of the bidder’s submission.

4.1 The presentation/ interviews will be scored from 1-10, whereby

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| --- | --- |
| **Score range**  | **Basis of score** |
| 0 | **Unacceptable:** Interview/ presentation is missed. |
| 1 -2 | **Poor:** very limited or unclear responses provided to questions and content of presentation is inadequate or substantially irrelevant  |
| 3-4 | **Below expectations:** The presentation and responses to questions only partially address the requirements mentioned In the spec. A below expectation response. |
| 5-6 | **Satisfactory:** An average presentation with adequate responses to questions asked but limited details provided which reduces the extent to which the response merits a good score  |
| 7-8 | **Good:** A good presentation with well- thought out responses submitted in terms of detail and relevance which meets the requirements in most areas/all areas |
| 9-10 | **Superior:** An excellent presentation and comprehensive responses to questions that ensure detail and clarity . |

4.2. Tenderer’s score for the interview/presentation will then be added to their score for the method statement: See example formula below.

**% score for method statement + (**Tenderer’s total weighted score X 10)

 Maximum obtainable weighted score

**= Overall score for quality**

**5. Price**

 5.1The ceiling price available for the delivering the research is £40,000 plus VAT.

**5.2 Tenders received over the ceiling price will be disqualified from the process. It is mandatory to provide a spreadsheet outlining the full cost of your proposed service including but not limited to staff breakdown, job title, full time equivalent, annual cost, premises, staff training and other costs (for information only).**

5.3 Scores will be allocated to the next Tenderer according to the following formula: -

Lowest price Tender divided by the next Tenderer’s bid and then multiplied by the 20% weighting for price to give an overall score.

 See example below:

 Lowest Price Bid X 20

 Next Tenderer’s Bid

This score will then be combined with the score for quality to determine the successful tenderer.

SECTION 4 - *CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT*

Please see attached for the Terms and Conditions that will apply to this piece of work.

These Terms and Conditions shall apply as may be supplemented or amended by the Special Conditions set out below or detailed in the Official Purchase Order.

***Note – No Goods and/or Services are to be supplied until an Official Purchase Order has been given to the successful Bidder.***