



Pre-Tender Market Engagement

Systems-wide Evaluation of Homelessness and Rough Sleeping services CPD4124003

Authority: Department for Levelling up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) (“the Authority”).

Date Response required: 12:00 noon (GMT) on Friday 24th March 2023

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 This Pre-Tender Market Engagement (PTME) seeks information in preparation for the potential procurement of a Supplier (from herein referred to as a “**Potential Supplier**”) to deliver Systems-wide Evaluation of Homelessness and Rough Sleeping services. The purpose of this PTME is to:
 - 1.1.1 help define the requirement;
 - 1.1.2 understand the capacity of the market to deliver and possible risks involved; and
 - 1.1.3 provide the market with an opportunity to ask questions, raise queries and any issues to be addressed at an early stage.
- 1.2 The Authority shall maintain commercial confidentiality of information received during the PTME.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) wishes to commission a systems wide evaluation of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping system, along with the delivery of a Test and Learn project. The total budget for this research work is up to £15m (excluding VAT) with the Test and Learn programme making up £12m of this budget. £0.5m has been set aside for a Deep Dives programme which includes some light-tough evaluation work of specific interventions. The remaining requirement is covered by £2.5m.
- 2.2 The Homelessness and Rough Sleeping (HRS) Programme provides funding for programmes designed to end rough sleeping and reduce homelessness. While there is some evidence on the impact of specific funds and interventions delivered by DLUHC, these interventions are delivered as part of a complex system where homelessness and rough sleeping is driven by both structural and individual factors, and service users interact concurrently with a wide range of government and third sector interventions. This overlap, in addition to the national roll out of most interventions, limits our ability to robustly evaluate different interventions in isolation from each other.
- 2.3 A draft Statement of Requirements has been attached for reference. DLUHC reserve the right to update the Statement of Requirement, and Potential Suppliers rely on them entirely at their own risk

3 SCOPE & REQUIREMENTS:

- 3.1 The Test and Learn Programme of work will aim to improve outcomes by focusing on gaining a better understanding of 'what works', for who, where, why, and in what context. This will extend across prevention, intervention, and recovery programmes, and will include identifying, implementing, evaluating, and scaling effective practice.

- 3.2 The System Wide evaluation will provide contextual information to better understand delivery at the system and at the local level, providing a broader understanding of how the system does work and should work as a whole; provide a better understanding of how people enter and move through the homelessness and rough sleeping system and interact with different services or support, and; measure delivery and interventions using a common set of metrics, to understand the effectiveness of the HRS system and service delivery.
- 3.3 This evaluation will incorporate qualitative and quantitative methods to test how, and how well, interventions work and interact across the HRS system and their value for money.
- 3.4 Both will also facilitate knowledge sharing and support capability building for local leaders and practitioners, with the aim of advancing the understanding and use of evidence to improve services.
- 3.5 Feasibility studies are currently underway and will inform the specification of the main project.

4 KEY DATES & TENDERING PROCESS

PTME online event	Friday 17 th March 2023 (10:00am)
PTME Response deadline	Friday 24 th March 2023 (12:00 noon)
Issue of ITT	w/c April 3 rd 2023

- 4.1 If it is decided this service is required, it is anticipated that a procurement may start in April 2023 with the contract to commence Summer 2023. These indicative dates are for information purposes only. DLUHC reserve the right to amend these dates at any time, and Potential Suppliers rely on them entirely at their own risk.
- 4.2 The contract is expected to be for a period of 3 years and 4 months.
- 4.3 The project, if progressed, is likely to be procured through the Crown Commercial Service (CCS) Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) - RM6126 Research and Insights.
- 4.4 Suppliers are able to apply to join the DPS at any time. During application to join the DPS, suppliers indicate which services they may be able to provide under the DPS.
- 4.5 Please note that new suppliers are able to register with the DPS via the following link and that this process can take at least two weeks (Once you click on the link below, please scroll down to see 'Research and Insights'): <https://supplierregistration.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/dps?fh=1#research>
- 4.6 If you have any questions about the DPS and would like to contact a member of the CCS team please use the links provided on the website above.

5 RESPONSE

- 5.1 Please respond by email to commercialtenders@levellingup.gov.uk with the following by 12:00 noon GMT on Friday 24th March 2023 (the "Response Deadline").**
- Q1 Would you be interested in bidding for this project?
- Q2 Is this project deliverable in the timeframe proposed?
- Q3 Is what the Authority asking for clear? Is there anything we need to make clearer in the SoR?

- Q4 What, if anything, has the Authority missed or overlooked in setting out their requirement?
- Q5 Are the proposed KPIs appropriate for this requirement?

6 QUESTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

- 6.1 Potential Suppliers may raise questions or seek clarification regarding any aspect of this PTME document at any time prior to the Response Deadline. Questions must be submitted by email to commercialtenders@levellingup.gov.uk only.
- 6.2 To ensure that all Potential Suppliers have equal access to information regarding this PTME exercise, responses to questions raised by Potential Suppliers will be published in a “Questions and Answers” document, which will also be circulated by email, with updates appearing at regular intervals (approximately two to three working days).
- 6.3 Responses to questions will not identify the originator of the question.
- 6.4 If a Potential Supplier wishes to ask a question or seek clarification without the question and answer being revealed, then the Potential Supplier must state this in their email and provide its justification for withholding the question and any response. If the Authority does not consider that there is sufficient justification for withholding the question and the corresponding response, the Potential Supplier will be invited to decide whether:
- 6.4.1 the question/clarification and the response should in fact be published; or
 - 6.4.2 it wishes to withdraw the question/clarification.

7 GENERAL CONDITIONS

- 7.1 This PTME will help the Authority to refine the requirements and to understand the potential level of interest in the delivering requirements. It will also aid Potential Supplier’s understanding of the requirements in advance of any formal competitive tender exercise.
- 7.2 The Authority reserves the right to change any information contained within this PTME at any time, and Potential Suppliers rely upon it entirely at their own risk.
- 7.3 The Authority reserves the right not to proceed with a competitive tender exercise after this PTME or to award any contract.
- 7.4 Any and all costs associated with the production of such a response to this PTME must be borne by the Potential Supplier.
- 7.5 No down-selection of Potential Suppliers will take place as a consequence of any responses or interactions relating to this PTME.
- 7.6 The Authority expects that all responses to this PTME will be provided by Potential Suppliers in good faith to the best of their ability in the light of information available at the time of their response.
- 7.7 No information provided by a Potential Supplier in response to this PTME will be carried forward, used or acknowledged in any way for the purpose of evaluating the Potential Supplier, in any subsequent formal procurement process.