**Soft Market Engagement – Textile Reuse/Recycling Services**

**Introduction**

West Northamptonshire Council is a unitary authority formed in 2021 from the former Councils of Daventry District Council, Northampton Borough Council, South Northamptonshire Council and Northamptonshire County Council.

**Background**

The former Daventry District Council area has 38,000 households, the former South Northamptonshire Council area has 42,000 households and the former Northampton Borough Council area has 101,000 households.

The Authority is seeking a contract for the collection from households, transport, sorting/processing, and sale of textiles from across the whole West Northamptonshire Council area.

The Authority expects this to be a concession based contract and will be confirmed following the soft market engagement prior to the tender publication. No payment will be made by the Authority to the contractor for the services provided and there is to be no income generated for the Authority.

It is estimated that the total value of the contract will be below the Concession Contracts Regulations 2016 (CCR16) threshold.

Currently only the former South Northamptonshire Council area has an existing arrangement for the collection by a third party. Textiles within the former Northampton Borough Council area can be put out for collection alongside a residents fortnightly dry recycling collection. There are no formal arrangements by the Authority with a third party within the Daventry area for the collection of textiles.

Current tonnage rates

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Geographical Area and Households** | **Current Collection Arrangements** | **Tonnage (2023)** |
| South Northants  | Collected by DB Collections in aid of Air Ambulance | 187.46 t |
| Northampton | Collected by Veolia as part of wider waste/recycling collection contract. | Approx 0.5 t |
| Daventry  | Not currently collected at the kerbside | Zero  |

**Market Engagement**

We would like, at this stage prior to commencing formal procurement, to seek input from the market as to what the appetite is for undertaking this service and to allow an opportunity to discuss options for the delivery of future provision.

Some of the issues we are seeking input on include:

* contract length
* the state of the market
* charity payments
* mobilisation periods

The Authority intends to hold an open information session for all interested organisations as individual scheduled meetings via Microsoft Teams.

A questionnaire will be issued to all interested organisations prior to the individual meetings and will be discussed with all interested parties in a set format. All discussions will be noted, any commercially sensitive information will be kept confidential.

The meeting sessions with individual interested parties will be held on:

* Monday, 22April 2024
* Tuesday, 23 April 2024
* Wednesday, 24 April 2024
* Thursday, 25 April 2024

Interested parties will be allocated a time slot of 45 minutes between 10:00 and 14.00.

Due to this we may have to cap the maximum amount of interested parties, but please be assured this will not impact your ability to participate in the impending tender opportunity.

If you wish to attend one of the meetings, please complete the required contact information, and slot preference and return to claire.baker@westnorthants.gov.uk by 17:00 on Friday, 12th April 2024:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organisation Name:** |  |
| **Main Contact Name and Details:** |  |
| **Name(s) of Attendee(s):** |  |
| **Email Addresses for MS Teams invite link to be sent:** |  |
| Available slot times and dates – Please select your preferred slot(s) in preference order i.e., 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th. Slots will be allocated on a first come first serve basis:  |

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| --- |
| Monday, 22April 2024: |
| Slot | Slot Time | Preference |
| 1 | 10:00 – 10:45 |  |
| 2 | 11:00 – 11:45 |  |
| 3 | 12:15 – 13:00 |  |
| 4 | 13:15 – 14:00 |  |

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| Tuesday, 23 April 2024: |
| Slot | Slot Time | Preference |
| 1 | 10:00 – 10:45 |  |
| 2 | 11:00 – 11:45 |  |
| 3 | 12:15 – 13:00 |  |
| 4 | 13:15 – 14:00 |  |

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| Wednesday, 24 April 2024: |
| Slot | Slot Time | Preference |
| 1 | 10:00 – 10:45 |  |
| 2 | 11:00 – 11:45 |  |
| 3 | 12:15 – 13:00 |  |
| 4 | 13:15 – 14:00 |  |

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| Wednesday, 25 April 2024: |
| Slot | Slot Time | Preference |
| 1 | 10:00 – 10:45 |  |
| 2 | 11:00 – 11:45 |  |
| 3 | 12:15 – 13:00 |  |
| 4 | 13:15 – 14:00 |  |

The Authority anticipates notifying all interested parties with their slot allocation by Thursday 18 April 2024.

**Participation in this process will not impact your ability to engage with the future tender opportunity.**