

**Expression of Interest**

For

**North Northamptonshire Council Sensory Support Service Auxiliary Aids for Children and young people with Hearing Impairments.**

1. **General Requirements**
   1. The purpose of this document is to briefly explain to suppliers the primary purpose of this expression of interest (EOI) is to inform the market of a prospective opportunity and to seek feedback in relation to the requirement as set out below.
   2. **Please note:** this expression of interest is a formal request for competition which may result in a contract award.
2. **Confidentiality and Freedom of Information (FOI)**
   1. Please note: all information included in this Expression of Interest is confidential and only for the recipients’ knowledge. No information included in this document or in discussions connected to it may be disclosed to any other party without prior written authorisation.
   2. All responses will be treated confidentially. However, please be aware that we are subject to the disclosure requirements of the FOI Act and that potentially any information we hold is liable to disclosure under that Act.
3. **North Northamptonshire Council (NNC)**
   1. Since April 2021 the eight existing sovereign councils of Northamptonshire comprise of; Wellingborough, Corby, Daventry, East Northants, Kettering, Northampton, Northamptonshire County Council and South Northamptonshire and have been replaced by two new unitary Councils:
   2. a new West Northamptonshire unitary council (WNC) serving the areas of Daventry District, Northampton Borough Council and South Northamptonshire and
   3. a new North Northamptonshire unitary authority (NNC) serving Wellingborough, Kettering, Corby and East Northants.

**Section 2:**

**Minimum Requirements**

1. North Northamptonshire Council Sensory Support Service would like to engage with a supplier of Auxiliary Aids for Children that are compatible with the Hearing Aids that are provided by health services. These Auxiliary Aids enable Children and Young people with Hearing impairments to access their education. The current Hearing Aid provided by Health Services are Marvel technology hearing aids and so the Auxiliary Aids that we provide must be compatible with this technology.
   * The Auxiliary Aid providers must be able to demonstrate an excellent worldwide reputation for being excellent paediatric hearing aids to support speech, language, and auditory processing development of deaf children.
   * The Auxiliary Aid must be compatible and work seamlessly with Heath services issued Hearing Aids which use Marvel technology. The Radio Aid system must include software that works reliably alongside Radio Aid technology that is issued by health and supported further via their hospital software.
   * The Auxiliary Aid receivers most be compatible for internal installation into Phonak hearing aids. North Northamptonshire Council has specified the Phonak and Marvel brands to ensure that they are compatible with Health issued Hearing Aids.
   * The Auxiliary radio Aid systems must be safe to use and comply with the law with respect to battery locking compartments when used with children who are under 5 years old or have hearing siblings under 5 years of age.
   * The Auxiliary Aids must demonstrably user friendly for children and their families.
   * The Service Provider must be able to repair the equipment as required.
   * The Service Provider must be able to provide equipment for the consumables for all equipment purchased, this must include, Touchscreen lanyards,Inspiro Cords,Inspiro Mics, Inspiro Mic Clips, Inspiro Belt Clips, Inspiro, Shoes, Tamper proof Kits, Cables and Plugs Soundfield, Unlockers, Stick'n'Stay.
2. This contract between NNC and the successful provider is expected to commence on the 19th December 2022 for an period of 24 Months.
3. The proposed Contract/Budget Value is £80,000 for an initial period of 24 months.
4. **Expression of Interest Timetable**
   1. Please read this document and if you feel that your organisation is able to meet the criteria in the Section 2 Minimum Requirements , please express your interest to this Expression of Interest (EOI) complete and return, via email to [procurement@northnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:procurement@northnorthants.gov.uk) by 17:00hrs Friday 2nd December 2022.
   2. No information in this document is, or should be relied upon as, an undertaking or representation as to NNC’s ultimate decision in relation to the requirement. NNC reserves the right, without notice, to change the process detailed in this document, or to amend the information provided, including, but not limited to, changing the timetable, the scope and nature of the requirement and the process. This will be subject to the normal rules of public law and procurement principles and rules.
   3. Moreover, NNC reserves the right to provide further information or to supplement and/or to amend the process. Participation in this process is at your own risk. NNC shall not accept liability nor reimburse you for any costs or losses incurred by you in relation to your participation in this process, whether NNC has made changes to the procurement process or not.
   4. NNC also reserves the right, at any point and without notice, to discontinue the EOI without awarding a contract, whether such discontinuance is related to the content of Responses or otherwise. In such circumstances, NNC will not reimburse any expenses incurred by any person in the consideration of and/or response to this document. You make all proposals and submissions relating to this requirement entirely at your own risk.

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| **ACTIVITY** | **TIME AND DATE**  **(as applicable)** |
| Publish Date of EOI | Wednesday 23rd November 2022 |
| Deadline for Expression of Interest responses | 17:00hrs on Friday 2nd December 2022 |
| Anticipated Award week commencing\* | Monday 12th December 2022 |
| Mobilisation by week commencing | Monday 19th December 2022 |

* 1. The Council reserves the right to amend this timetable, and items marked with an asterisk, i.e., \*, are provided for **guidance only** and are **subject to change** at short notice.

**Please note: The response to this EOI should cover as a minimum the criteria set out in Section 2 Minimum Requirements**

1. **Evaluation/ Award Criteria:** 
   1. The Award Criteria Questionnaire carries a total weight of 100% for quality.

The Potential Supplier with the highest score will be awarded the contract.

* 1. Each Expression of Interest Response will be evaluated by an Evaluation Panel, which may include, but not be limited to North Northamptonshire Council Officers.
  2. Any moderation meetings will be attended by the Evaluation Panel.
  3. As the result of any moderation, the Evaluation Panel may choose to revise a Potential Supplier’s score for each response to a Quality Assessment question, either up or down to reach a final score.
  4. All responses to the Award Criteria Questionnaire will be assessed against the Criteria set out in the Table A below:

1. The evaluated score as detailed in Table below, will be divided by 4 and multiplied by the question weighting (within Total) (%), to provide a final score (%) for each question, in accordance with the following example:
   1. If the question weighting (within Total) is 20% and the Potential Supplier’s response is scored ‘2’, their final score (%) will be:
      1. 2 / 4 x 20 = 10% for that question.
   2. The Potential Supplier’s response to each question will be evaluated and scored a maximum of 4 marks as per Table B.
   3. Should the Evaluation Panel, in its reasonable judgement, identify a fundamental failing or weakness in any Expression of Interest Response then that Expression of Interest Response may, regardless of its other merits, be excluded from further consideration.

**Table A**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SECTION TITLE** | **SECTION WEIGHTING (%)** | **QUESTION NUMBER** | **QUESTION SUB-WEIGHTING (%)** |
| **Quality** | 100% | 1 | 100% |

All responses to the Award Criteria Questionnaire will be assessed against the Criteria set out in Table below.

**Table B:**

| **Score** | **Criteria for Awarding Score** |
| --- | --- |
| 0 | Considered to be a **poor response** on the basis that:   * No response is provided; or * It does not answer the question or is completely irrelevant. |
| 1 | Considered to be a **limited response** on the basis that:   * Overall, it lacks sufficient detail or is perceived to be unclear, meaning that evaluators are not confident that the criteria will be delivered to an acceptable level. |
| 2 | Considered to be an **acceptable response** on the basis that:   * It addresses most of the relevant criteria; and/or * The supporting detail is clear for the most part and provides evaluators with an understanding that the criteria it does address will be met to an acceptable level. |
| 3 | Considered to be a **good response** on the basis that:   * It addresses all relevant criteria; and/or * The supporting detail is clear and provides evaluators with confidence that the criteria will be delivered to a good standard. |
| 4 | Considered to be an **outstanding response** on the basis that:   * It addresses all relevant criteria; and/or * The supporting detail is clear and robust and provides evaluators with the utmost confidence that all criteria will be delivered to the highest standard. |

**Please note: This EOI may result in a Contract Award dependent of responses to this EOI.**

**Section 3:**

**Supporting Information**

Please note: you do not need to resize the table; it will automatically adjust to fit your response.

**Section A: Organisation and Contact Details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Question** | **Response** |
| Name of your organisation |  |
| Registered office (if applicable) |  |
| Trading address (if different from office) |  |
| Name of person whom any queries relating to this questionnaire should be addressed |  |
| Telephone Number(s) |  |
| Email |  |
| Address if different to above |  |

**Section B: Award Questions**

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| **Question** |
| **1.** How can you demonstrate that you are able to meet the minimum requirements listed above in Section 2 Minimum Requirements **(Maximum 500 Words)** |
| **Response** |

**The successful provider will be provided with Terms and Conditions upon award.**