

## **Prior Information Notice**

### **Reducing Parental Conflict Programme Face to Face Provision**

#### **Background of Intended Procurement**

This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is not a binding statement of intent, it outlines the Authority's intention to engage with the Supply Market on an open and formal basis to notify of potential future services, if that is what is decided.

This PIN sets out the outline details which apply to the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Reducing Parental Conflict Programme (RPCP) of which Face to Face (F2F) provision is one strand. Subject to a decision on future provision it is anticipated that the DWP will be inviting tenders to deliver evidence based Face to Face Interventions to reduce parental conflict.

Local Authorities (LA) have been consulted as part of the development of this provision to understand common needs across areas as well as the need to provide for local priorities.

#### **About Reducing Parental Conflict Programme**

Evidence shows that unresolved parental conflict puts children at higher risk of negative outcomes. Workless families where parents are together experience around triple the rate of parental conflict compared to their working peers. Around three quarters of workless families are headed by a lone parent. Around half of children in separated families do not see their non-resident parent regularly which is indicative of conflict between their parents. The RPCP has been established to address parental conflict in 'intact' and 'separated' families by promoting integration of support to reduce parental conflict in local services across England, including delivery of evidence-based face to face interventions. This is intended to improve outcomes for children, with significant savings for the public purse as the resulting demand for public services is reduced.

#### **About the Reducing Parental Conflict Programme – Face to Face provision**

The policy intent of the F2F provision is to develop new markets for face to face services for workless parents, (both intact and separated) and other parents identified as disadvantaged by LAs in four geographical locations, known as Contract Package Areas. Each area will consist of a lead Local Authority partnered with several others in their immediate geographical area. The lead areas will be Dorset, Gateshead, Hertfordshire and Westminster. The F2F element of the provision has a budget of £11.6m.

The expected outcomes are for the F2F provision to:

- Introduce face to face evidence-based interventions which reduce parental conflict and improve outcomes for children;
- Focus support on workless parents and other parents identified as disadvantaged by LAs;
- Supporting workless parents (at least 80%) and other families identified as disadvantaged by LAs.(up to 20%)
- Grow and embed the choice of evidence-based interventions to reduce parental conflict;
- Build volume and geographical spread of supply and explore what is effective for these groups, and
- Provide insight, learning and evaluation to understand which interventions work when supporting parents who are experiencing conflict, to ultimately improve children's outcomes.

## Commercial Details

Subject to a decision on future provision the anticipated duration for this requirement is for the period from January 2019 to March 2021. It will be procured via an open competition incorporating a Commercial Dialogue phase.

The provisional commercial timetable is that the Authority intends to issue a Contract Notice in the OJEU along with access to the Invitation to Tender (ItT) in July 2018. The Authority intends to hold a Supplier Briefing Event (in Sheffield) to coincide with the launch to discuss with potential providers the policy, commercial and financial aspects of the requirement and associated bidding documents. After an anticipated 3 week bidding period, Qualification tenders will be evaluated and shortlisted providers will be notified in August 2018 if they will be invited to the Dialogue phase in September 2018. During an anticipated 4 week Dialogue phase, the Authority may host further supporting events at the outset to support and inform the Dialogue. After the Dialogue concludes, providers will be asked to submit their Best and Final tenders in October 2018. The anticipated award date is December 2018 with arrangements to become operational in January 2019.

Anticipated key dates are;

Activity	Date
Publication of the OJEU Contract Notice	Late July 2018
Publication of the ItT to all potential providers	Late July 2018
Supplier Briefing Event	Wednesday 1st August 2018
Deadline for return of Qualification tenders	Early August 2018
Evaluate Qualification tenders	Late August 2018
Dialogue phase (for successful tenderers of the Qualification phase)	September 2018
Supporting Events	September 2018

Best and Final Offers received	October 2018
Intention to Award notification issued to successful and unsuccessful tenderers	December 2018
Sign contract	January 2019
Service Start Date	January 2019
Service End Date	March 2021

## Registering

If you are interested in receiving tender documents and attending the Supplier Briefing Event in Sheffield for this potential requirement, please register your interest on our electronic tendering system Bravo, using the following link

<https://dwp.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.shtml>

Once publication of the OJEU contract notice goes live in late July 2018 there will be further opportunity to register your interest for this potential requirement and to attend the Supplier Briefing Event.

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