**Early Market Engagement - Wellbeing & Independence services for adults**

**Introduction**

Shropshire Council would like to take the opportunity to engage with potential providers and/or partners in the future commissioning of Wellbeing & Independence services for adults.

Please note that the purpose of this process is for the council to discuss with the market and inform our current understanding of key issues and themes relating to the provision of these services and also to discuss what the market has to offer to assist the Council to deliver the services from 1st April 2024.

Please note that this is not the commencement of any formal procurement process and the Council is not committed to carrying out such a process.

For the avoidance of doubt no information provided in response to this process will be used by the Council in assessing providers during any subsequent procurement process.

This early market engagement exercise is intended to allow potential providers to outline their views and to provide information to the Council decision making process.

The Council will consider the information received as a result of this exercise to help inform the Council’s options appraisal and subsequent Council decision making process.

**Background**

The Council currently commissions Wellbeing and Independence services for adults with the **overarching aim of helping people to remain independent and active in their own home and their community in order to reduce the likelihood of them becoming unwell, using health services or long-term formal care and support**. The current scope of the services consists of the 4 following key elements:

* Practical help in the home
* Friendship support (befriending)
* Day opportunities
* Keeping well, keeping active incorporating the development and support of groups aimed at keeping people active

The Council is keen to engage with the market to understand the opportunities available to meet the overarching aim set out above.

**Outline Timescale**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **PROJECT STAGE** | **PURPOSE** | **SCHEDULE** |
| Early Market Engagement | ***This is NOT a call for competition***.  This is intended to allow interested parties with relevant experience to outline their views and provide information with no commitment to themselves or the Council | 14th July 2023 |
| Closing Date for responses | The closing date and time for responses is 5.00pm on 4th August 2023 | 4th August 2023 |
| Target date for issue of tender | Placing of tender notice | TBC |
| Target closing date of tender | Closing date for receipt of tenders | TBC |
| Contract Start |  | 1st April 2024 |

1. **General Information**

Completed questionnaires (see Appendix 1) should be returned to Lisa Middleton [lisa.middleton@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.middleton@shropshire.gov.uk) by 5.00pm on 4th August 2023.

**If you have any questions about this early market engagement, such questions should be submitted to the Council through an email to Lisa Middleton** [**lisa.middleton@shropshire.gov.uk**](mailto:lisa.middleton@shropshire.gov.uk)

We intend to invite all potential providers who express an interest in getting involved in this early market engagement exercise to meet with us to discuss their response. This could either be in person or via Teams and it is anticipated to take about an hour. A **provisional date of 15th August** has been set for meetings.

***We encourage your participation in this early market engagement exercise, but must emphasise that your involvement in this exercise will not carry any commercial advantage in any ensuing procurement process***

***No information provided in response to this early market engagement exercise will be used in any evaluation of any subsequent response to a procurement exercise***

1. **Appendix 1 – Questionnaire**

***Please complete the following questionnaire (questions 1 – 6) fully, highlighting any information that you consider to be commercially sensitive***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of your organisation** |  |
| **Contact name, email and telephone number** |  |
| **Do you currently (or have you previously) delivered any element of the services in scope Y/N?** |  |
| **If Yes please give a brief description** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Question 1** | **Would you be interested in bidding for this service?**   * 1. **If Yes, why?**   2. **If No, why not?** |
| ***Response to Question 1*** | |
| **Question 2** | **EITHER:**  **If you ARE currently delivering any element of the services in scope, please tell us briefly about:**   * **what works well** * **what you learnt from the experience** * **where do / did you deliver the service?**   **OR:**  **If you are not currently delivering any element of the services in scope, please tell us briefly about:**   * **any relevant experience your organisation has** * **what worked well** * **what you learnt from the experience** * **where do / did you deliver the service** |
| ***Response to Question 2*** | |
| **Question 3** | **Thinking about your experience in delivering this type of service (or part thereof) are there any emerging themes, gaps in provision or priority areas of work that you would like commissioners to take into account when specifying the new service? If so please set these out here.** |
| ***Response to Question 3*** | |
| **Question 4** | **What Social Value opportunities do you feel may be available through this contract? (see link –** [**Shropshire Council Social Value**](https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/social-value/commissioning-social-value-faqs/) |
| ***Response to Question 4*** | |
| **Question 5** | **We are keen to understand how best to ensure there is sufficient capacity to meet demand and to secure the financial sustainability of these services in a challenging financial climate for publicly funded services. Please tell us how you would envisage this happening (You may want to reference length of contract, price inflation, frequency of contract reviews and external funding opportunities to complement contract funding)** |
| ***Response to Question 5*** | |
| **Question 6** | **Is there anything you would like to add that you would like the council to take in consideration?** |
| ***Response to Question 6*** | |