



**Questions and Responses - Oxfordshire Growth Hub Business Support
Updated on Monday 31st January**

Question

Is the funding for this service non-ERDF i.e., from anticipated BEIS Growth Hub funding?

Response

It will be funded through anticipated BEIS funding.

Question

Are you anticipating the funding for this service being extended for subsequent years subject to ongoing BEIS funding?

Response

This is currently under review.

Question

Is there an existing service provider and do you anticipate TUPE applying to the service? If so, have you further details of the liabilities?

Response

There is and no there would be no TUPE obligation.

Question

Are you anticipating the service providing/commissioning new, currently unfunded services for businesses OR co-ordinating/improving the coherence of existing service provision?

Response

Both. We are very open to discussion on services to be provided.

Question

Is there a current supplier of the service being commissioned? If so, this would seem to amount to a transfer of service and therefore TUPE would likely apply. If it is an entirely new service to support the existing Growth Hub team then it would be reasonable to assume that TUPE wouldn't apply.

Response

To clarify, this tender opportunity is to run one element of our Growth Hub activity which has been outsourced for last 2 years via a similar procurement process. The provider is on a one-year contract which comes to an end on the 31/3 in line with current BEIS funding. There will be no TUPE involved.

Question

Can you confirm the total number of businesses to be supported over 12-month period is 1200?

Response

We are looking for a minimum of 1200 business to be supported.

Question

Is this a brand-new contract or will TUPE apply? If TUPE applies please could you share the TUPE information?

Response

There is no TUPE obligation due to nature of current contract which ends on the 31/3/22.



Question

Is there a word limit for responding to Section B - Method Statement?

Response

There is no word limit when responding to Section B – Method Statement.

Question

Within the RFQ document, it states that “This offer should run from 01 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.” Please can you confirm these dates.

Response

This offer should run from 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

Question

Please can you confirm the requirements surrounding the delivery of this service.

Response

Our requirements are detailed in the document itself including high level objectives.

Question

Is there any mechanism for small, specialist providers to contribute their expertise as subcontractors or partners, either through a pre-bid introduction or by submitting a partially compliant bid for subsequent connection?

Response

We would welcome collaborative bids. This has worked particularly well for the last 2 years. We would suggest submitting a tender to run the programme on a collaborative basis with other organisations or failing that wait for the contract to be awarded. Reaching out through channels such as LinkedIn is a good starting point.