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# **Request for Tender - Commissioning Consultancy for Post Adoption Support**

## Introduction

As part of the Implementation of the Adoption Amendment ACT 2017 Tusla (Ireland's Child and Family Agency)

Tusla is now seeking to commission a suitably experienced and qualified external professional to engage with the project team to complete a scoping exercise to be carried out by appropriate experts in the area of Adoption on the current provision of post adoption services in Ireland, and make recommendations based on international best practice as to how these services can be delivered into the future.

This project will involve consultation with vital stakeholders and service providers using feedback and drawing from their experience and knowledge in examining potential models / approaches which may contribute to the strategy, within the Irish context (having regard to Irish legislation, care guideline, standards and culture).

## The Role of Tusla

Tusla (the Child and Family Agency) is now the dedicated State agency responsible for improving wellbeing and outcomes for children. It represents the most comprehensive reform of child protection, early intervention and family support services ever undertaken in Ireland.

Under the Child and Family Act 2013, the Child and Family Agency is charged with supporting and promoting the development, welfare and protection of children, and the effective functioning of families;

- offering care and protection for children in circumstances where their parents have not been able to, or are unlikely to, provide the care that a child needs. In order to discharge these responsibilities, the Agency is required to maintain and develop the services needed in order to deliver these supports to children and families, and provide certain services for the psychological welfare of children and their families;
- responsibility for ensuring that every child in the State attends school or otherwise receives an education, and for
  providing education welfare services to support and monitor children's attendance, participation and retention in
  education:
- ensuring that the best interests of the child guides all decisions affecting individual children;
- consulting children and families so that they help to shape the agency's policies and services;
- strengthening interagency co-operation to ensure seamless services responsive to needs;
- undertaking research relating to its functions, and providing information and advice to the Minister regarding those functions; and
- · commissioning services relating to the provision of child and family services

# The Role of the Service Provider and Project Purpose

Tusla has a requirement to commission an independent expert/researcher with extensive knowledge in the area of strategic development; alternative care and Adoption, to assist the Agency in the development of post Adoption services.

# **Project Deliverable**

The project scope sets out provision for the commissioned person to draft the post Adoption Support Strategy document on behalf of Tusla.

In addition to the background information, evaluation and links to corporate documents and demographics, the report should describe the range of specified types of post Adoption support provision both domestic and international. The proposed strategy will have its basis on compatibility modelling (i.e. only focusing on particular care models / types of

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provisions which could realistically be integrated into the Irish context, having regard for legislation, ethics, culture and other such parameters).

The final document (incorporating implementation plan) will be comprehensive and visually engaging.

# Scope of the Project

The final processes on achieving the deliverable will be completed in conjunction with the successful applicant. The deliverable is a professionally prepared and drafted strategy document with proposed implementation plan.

## Requirements

The organisation / individual commissioned must:

- · Demonstrate competencies required,
- Be available to discuss progress with the Project Team on a bi-weekly basis (this may be via on-line platform such as Webex or Skype),
- Commit to commencement and completion of project within timeframes noted below.

#### **Timeframe**

- The successful organisation/person commence the project by beginning May 2018,
- It is expected that this project will take 8-10 weeks to complete,
- The deliverable (proofed, fully edited and print ready) MUST be ready by End June 2018

## **Submission requirements**

In addition to the tender document all applicants must submit:

- Current and up-to date CV (where several persons are contributing, please indicate the percentage time each provide to the overall project)
- Evidence of expertise in the area
- · Commitment to complete all named activities
- · Be able to ensure completion of deliverable within time frame
- Garda vetting

# **Awarding Criteria**

The contact will be awarded on cost (20%), plus the following qualifying criteria:

- Evidenced technical ability / qualifications (30%);
- Proposed Plan (25%);
- Professional memberships and associations (15%);
- Quality assurance proposal (10%)

## Costing

A maximum budget of €10,000 is available for this project. This will include all the costs associated with venues, booking systems, expenses and subsistence.

## **Deadline for Submissions**

Tender documents must be received at this office by email to Alice. Gavigan@tusla.ie [2], by 3pm (CET) on 27th March 2018.

Region: Nationwide Expiry date: 27/03/2018

**Date** 06/03/18

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## Links

- [1] https://www.activelink.ie/content/vacancies/tenders/35833
- [2] mailto:Alice.Gavigan@tusla.ie