

**WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
INVITATION FOR EXPRESSIONS OF
INTEREST FOR THE
PROVISION OF WELFARE BENEFIT
ADVICE OUTREACH SERVICES WITHIN
WEST SUSSEX.**

West Sussex County Council is seeking expressions of interest from organisations with appropriate experience and expertise to provide welfare benefit advice services to 'hard to reach' older people across West Sussex. This is part of a partnership approach to increase people's independence, choice and control in the provision of care and support services.

Although the focus is to increase the numbers of older people claiming two specific welfare benefits, Pension Credit and Attendance Allowance, we will expect the service to support greater take up of other benefits including Council Tax benefit and Warm Front Grants.

This forms part of our Local Area Agreement and work with the DWP Pensions Service in developing Joint Teams.

To be included in a select list, prospective tenderers will be required to demonstrate commitment to and experience of:

- Putting the needs of older people and their carers at the forefront of service delivery
- A holistic approach and the development of 'wellbeing' assessments
- Evidence of working collaboratively and creatively with other stakeholders.

The overall contract value will be in the region of £72k per annum. Organisations need not apply for the total contract value as a number of smaller schemes or enhancements may be considered.

It is anticipated that the contract(s) will begin in December 2006 and will continue until March 2009 subject to regular monitoring and annual review.

Please express your interest in writing by Friday 14th July 2006 to: Anna Williamson, Contracts Officer, West Sussex County Council, Adults' Services, Contracts Unit, The Grange, County Hall, Chichester PO19 1QT.