



WILL LIGHTBOURNE
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

December 21, 2015

TO: COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS

SUBJECT: CHILD WELFARE SERVICES-- NEW SYSTEM (CWS-NS)
PROJECT REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) RELEASE

This letter informs you that the first two RFPs under the new Child Welfare Services procurement strategy were released today.

BACKGROUND

The CWS-NS project is following an “agile” procurement approach, which disaggregates the original “monolithic” RFP into several discreet modules. This approach will speed the delivery of new functionality, increase competition by expanding the pool of vendors likely to participate in the bidding process, and ensure that each component is developed and tested with end-users. By continuously incorporating user feedback and ensuring each component of the system meets their needs, the agile approach also will reduce the risk of project failure.

The first two RFPs released today will procure vendors for the development of the technical Application Programming Interface (API) and the Intake modules.

API RFP

The API RFP includes requirements for the development of the technical connection to the Child Welfare Services/ Case Management System (CWS/CMS), the API layer for the existing CWS/CMS Intake data elements, and the modification of the API layer to support new Intake module functionality.

Intake Module RFP

The Intake module RFP includes requirements for both the intake and investigations business processes. These include search, referral, reporting, and investigation functionalities. This RFP does not require the integration of the Structured Decision Making (SDM) tool with the Intake module, but rather includes the exploration of such integration as an option. Research with end-users will determine whether integrating or interfacing SDM with the Intake module will provide the most business value.

County Welfare Directors
Chief Probation Officers
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We are excited that the first deliverables for the API module and Intake module procurements are expected to be received in FY 2016-2017. These procurements represent the first of many more to come, with the next likely being released in a few months. A preliminary schedule of future RFP releases, contract award and alpha testing dates is attached for your reference.

As the project proceeds through the procurement and development processes, we can achieve our goals of developing a new child welfare services system, and ultimately protecting the well-being of children and families, by maintaining the strongest collaboration between state and county teams. We look forward to continuing our work and communications with counties and other stakeholders as the project progresses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Will Lightbourne", written in a cursive style.

WILL LIGHTBOURNE
Director

Attachment

c: CWDA
CPOC

CWS-NS Project Agile Milestone Timeline

