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Tender

## **Procurement of Group Auditor**

NORTH EAST ACCESS TO FINANCE LIMITED

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-000331

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-028891

Published 8 January 2021, 9:25am

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

NORTH EAST ACCESS TO FINANCE LIMITED

3rd Floor Baltimore House, Abbots Hill

Gateshead

NE8 3DF

#### **Contact**

James Arkless

#### **Email**

[james.arkless@nea2f.co.uk](mailto:james.arkless@nea2f.co.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1914998552

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKC - NORTH EAST (ENGLAND)

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.nea2f.co.uk/>

**I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://www.nea2f.co.uk/>

Additional information can be obtained from another address:

james.arkless@nea2f.co.uk

3rd Floor Baltimore House

Gateshead

NE8 3DF

**Contact**

James Arkless

**Email**

[james.arkless@nea2f.co.uk](mailto:james.arkless@nea2f.co.uk)

**Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKC2 - Northumberland and Tyne and Wear

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.nea2f.co.uk/>

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://www.nea2f.co.uk/>

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Economic and financial affairs

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**Section II: Object****II.1) Scope of the procurement****II.1.1) Title**

Procurement of Group Auditor

Reference number

NEA2F/041

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 79000000 - Business services: law, marketing, consulting, recruitment, printing and security

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

We are inviting firms to tender for the contract as external Group Auditor for North East Access to Finance and its other group companies, including North East Finance (Holdco), for a period of three years commencing with the financial year 2020/21.

Interested parties who intend to bid are asked to register an expression of interest and we will send you the Applicant Pack. Although the invitation to tender published on the website includes the specification of requirements, the Applicant Pack contains more details on the companies and we recommend that you read it carefully before preparing your bid document.

Expressions of interest and any questions about the tender process should be emailed to our Company Secretary James Arkless c/o [james.arkless@nea2f.co.uk](mailto:james.arkless@nea2f.co.uk).

The closing date for submission of bids is 12.00 noon on Monday 15 February 2021.

In keeping with recent changes to regulatory requirements, tax compliance services and advice do not form part of this tender.

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £220,000

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 79210000 - Accounting and auditing services

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKC - NORTH EAST (ENGLAND)

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Tenders are sought from suitably qualified firms to act as external Group Auditor for North East Access to Finance Limited ('NEA2F') and its group companies, including North East Finance (Holdco) Limited which is Holding Fund Manager for the North East JEREMIE programme, Finance for Business NE.

The appointment will be for three years beginning with the financial year ending 31 March 2021.

The primary role of the external audit is to report on the consolidated financial statements of the NEA2F group and the financial statements of the individual companies and to carry

out such examination of the statements and underlying records and control systems as is necessary to reach an opinion on those statements. The opinion will be required to cover primarily whether the statements give a true and fair view and have been properly prepared in accordance with UK GAAP and the Companies Act 2006. We have adopted FRS 102.

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

#### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £220,000

#### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Duration in months

36

This contract is subject to renewal

No

#### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

Any extension beyond the initial three years will be at the discretion of the Contracting Authority

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## **Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

### **III.1) Conditions for participation**

#### **III.1.1) Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers**

List and brief description of conditions

- The firm must be an FCA registered audit practice, with an appropriate level of PI cover, details of which must be provided.
- Bidders must confirm their ability to complete the audit within the required 6 month timescale, as set out in the invitation to tender.

#### **III.1.2) Economic and financial standing**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

#### **III.1.3) Technical and professional ability**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

### **III.2) Conditions related to the contract**

#### **III.2.1) Information about a particular profession**

Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession

Reference to the relevant law, regulation or administrative provision

Bidders must be FCA registered audit firms

#### **III.2.3) Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract**

Obligation to indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to performing the contract

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Open procedure

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

### **IV.2) Administrative information**

#### **IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

15 February 2021

Local time

12:00pm

#### **IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English

#### **IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender**

Duration in months: 36 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

#### **IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders**

Date

15 February 2021

Local time

1:00pm

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.2) Information about electronic workflows**

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

Stephen Lightley

3rd Floor Baltimore House

Gateshead

NE8 3DF

Country

United Kingdom