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Tender

NRW Helicopter Support Services Framework Agreement 2025-2029

Natural Resources Wales

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-000839

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-047ce1

Published 10 January 2025, 12:22pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Natural Resources Wales

Welsh Government Offices Cathays Park , King Edward VII Avenue

Cardiff

CF10 3NQ

Contact

Naomi Hammond

Email

naomi.hammond@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 3000653000

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKL - Wales

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0110

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.3) Communication

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

<https://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.shtml>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.shtml>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Environment

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

NRW Helicopter Support Services Framework Agreement 2025-2029

Reference number

project_57490 / itt_113588

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 60424120 - Hire of helicopters with crew

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

NRW is responsible for the management of the Welsh Government Woodland Estate (WGWE) and land in our care including National Nature Reserves.

NRW wishes to put in place an all-Wales multi-supplier Framework Agreement for the provision of Helicopter Support Services to help enable the Welsh Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) manage fires on our land, or neighbouring land where conditions pose a threat to our land, that have become well established and/or are out of control.

Services provided under this Framework Agreement may be required anywhere in Wales or land managed by NRW in England. Historically, however, the majority of firefighting work has been located in south Wales.

The number and extent of fires each year will determine the support NRW and FRS will require. Due to this unpredictability, NRW does not guarantee any work under this Framework Agreement.

The proposed duration of the Framework Agreement is 24 months with the option of extending for a further 2 x 12 months thereafter subject to satisfactory performance and annual price review

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £1,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 35612300 - Support helicopters
- 34711500 - Helicopters

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKL - Wales

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The full description of requirements is provided in the tender documentation published on <https://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.shtml>.

Requirements include the provision of:

1. A helicopter suitably equipped for the aerial application of water using underslung bucket
2. Qualified and competent air crew rated for aerial application work and if required experienced ground support crew
3. Minimum 910 litre “Bambi” bucket or equivalent that can be operated at full capacity and the availability of at least 1 spare bucket.
4. If required, refuelling equipment (and fuel) including a minimum of 2000 litre bowser, suitable 4x4 towing vehicle and pollution control spill kits
5. Service Provider(s) must provide a means of effective real time communications between the pilot and the IC, usually in the form of Air band transceivers
6. All machinery and equipment to be supplied, remain serviceable and be serviced throughout the duration of the Framework Agreement by the Service Provider(s)
7. Liaison with FRS Incident Commander (IC) for briefings, including discussion on deployment.

8. Assessment of local onsite conditions by Service Provider(s) and the accurate application of water along the leading edge of the fire (fire front) unless directed otherwise by FRS.

Service Provider(s) are required to abide by the UK Regulation (EU) No 965/2012 Part SPO (Specialised Operations) or equivalent and must maintain throughout the framework all necessary certificates and qualifications required by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Service Provider(s) must have necessary insurance cover and will be required to observe first aid standards, and other such precautions, such as health and safety, and procedures on access to land and water sources. Service Provider(s) are required to report any notifiable incident, such as pollution, and report on its carbon emissions.

Service Provider(s) are not permitted to assign their obligations under this framework to sub-contractors; sub-contracting is not permitted under this FWA.

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: £1,000,000

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

Duration in months

48

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: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions for participation

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.2.2) Contract performance conditions

As per Procurement Tender Documents published at
<https://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.shtml>

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with several operators

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2024/S 000-021363](#)

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

Date

17 February 2025

Local time

11:00am

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: 3 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

17 February 2025

Local time

2:00pm

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.3) Additional information

INSTRUCTIONS ON COMPLETING THE ITT

i) Suppliers should register on the eTendering portal
<https://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk>

ii) Once registered, suppliers must express their interest as follows:

a) login to the eTendering portal

b) select ITT'

c) select 'ITTs Open To All Suppliers'

d) access the listing relating to the contract (itt_113588 - NRW Helicopter Support Services Framework Agreement 2025-2029) and view details

e) click on 'Express Interest' button in the 'Actions' box on the left-hand side of the page

iii) Once you have expressed interest, the ITT will move to 'My ITTs', where you can download and view documents and where you can construct your reply as instructed. You must then publish your reply using the publish button.

iv) For any support in submitting your expression of interest, please contact the eTendering helpdesk on 0800 0112470 or at help@bravosolution.co.uk.

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the Sell2Wales Web Site at
https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=142973.

(WA: 142973)

An in-tender bidder briefing event will be held on Thursday 16 January 2025 at 10 am until 11.30 am. Bidders may register at the following link:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/6c554283-0bf6-4353-bc02-c7c61480d8be@886>

[5ef0f-acde-487c-bf17-5cb50375d757](https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/search_switch.aspx?ID=147195)

NOTE: The authority is using eTenderwales to carry out this procurement process. To obtain further information record your interest on Sell2Wales at https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/search_switch.aspx?ID=147195

(WA Ref:147195)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court

Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Telephone

+44 2079477501

Country

United Kingdom