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Planning

Market Engagement for the provision of an IT Network to support associated systems

Ministry of Justice

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-001314

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0397ec

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Ministry of Justice

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Contact

Stuart Taylor

Email

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Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-justice>

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Public order and safety

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Market Engagement for the provision of an IT Network to support associated systems

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

His Majesty's Prison & Probation Service (HMPPS) is in the early stages of preparing to initiate a procurement process for the provision of a complete IT Network to support associated services to facilitate activities for Employment, Skills and Work. The system will incorporate the design, test, deployment, maintenance, and continual development of the complete system including all the physical infrastructure, single or multiple operating systems (installed on physical devices and cloud based), software deployment functionality and the integration with other 3rd party systems and provide overarching system security.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

As part of the continual development and improvement of the way HMPPS delivery IT Network and Associated Services, we are exploring capabilities within the market with a view to better understanding how a new service could be delivered in supporting incoming providers within the new Prison Education Service.

Due to the unique security and operational requirements of prisons, the IT Network and Associated Services will need to meet the requirements of HMPPS and undergo a stringent CHECK certified penetration test. Previous market engagement has explored the availability of Visual Learning Environments that will improve the learner experience and although not within this brief there is an expectation that the provider will work together to deliver the best experience for the learners in our care.

The IT Network and Associated Services will be an online system but will need to interact with an offline in-cell laptop solution.

Infrastructure outline (estimates with capacity to scale up)

8000 end user devices, (device to be explored)

Relevant server infrastructure to support up to 103 plus sites

Cabling infrastructure where needed

Online connectivity – Broadband lines (Dedicated Direct to Internet Circuits)

Backup and storage solutions

1000 printers

1050 Interactive displays with security controls

Other peripheral devices to include but not limited to – Scanners, keyboards, mice, digital pads, web cams, headphones, microphones.

The IT Network and Associated Services must as minimum meet the following requirements.

The IT Network must support all areas of Reducing Re-offending, Learning Skills and Work

New Futures Network

Education

Libraries

Careers Information and Advice Guidance Services

Prison Regime Activity

Screening and Assessment

Content Creator Centres

The functionality to deploy an operating system or multiple operating systems to both the end user device and as a cloud-based solution.

The functionality to manage and deploy software at network, individual computer, server, and cloud-based level against the requirements of the buyer.

The maintenance of the IT Network and Associated Services to include but not limited to:- Hardware and infrastructure, System upgrades as required by the buyer (one upgrade within the 4 year contract at start), maintenance or replacement of peripherals.

Service desk

On-site engineer support

Remote technical support

System Training

Interoperability with 3rd party and HMPPS system via application programme interface. A level of maintenance of APIs will be required.

Full system security to meet HMPPS/MOJ/Cabinet Office requirements.

Supplier required hold ISO27001/27002

Agile response to system change request (Contingency for development and system changes).

Allow listing and category based to websites and services alongside web-browser management using role-based access controls.

Active directory management.

Service requirements delivered via the IT Network synchronisation to systems:

Visual Learning Environment/Learning Management System

Contract Management Data System

Online Exam Facilitation from a range of awarding organisations using awarding body provided software/web-based services

Jobs Board

Labour Market Intelligence and Analytics

CV Writing Facility

Content creation with Role Based Access controls

Staff CPD (PES Providers)

Offline VLE/LMS

Secure Email

Screening and Assessment

Libraries

Structure for the engagement

It is the intention to (invite interested organisations to complete a short Questionnaire and further) hold a showcase event for a select few, structured to enable potential providers to demonstrate their approach to a Digital IT Network to a group of technical and programme staff from His Majesties Prison Service. The demonstration will be directly with a single provider per slot and will not involve other providers or delivered within a group setting

II.2.14) Additional information

Additional information must be requested by email to stuart.taylor6@justice.gov.uk

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

8 January 2024

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

As set out above, the purpose of this Prior Information Notice (PIN) is to seek feedback and interest from suppliers across a range of aspects relating to the current and future service.

Supplier Engagement will be managed by the Authority utilising the MOJ e-sourcing portal (also known as Jaggaer); Ministry of Justice Sourcing Portal:

<https://ministryofjusticecommercial.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.html>. Suppliers that are not already registered will need to register.

Interested suppliers can register their interest in the PIN, view the associated EM Supplier Briefing pack and are invited to complete a short questionnaire all via the MOJ e-sourcing suite.

Please complete the questionnaire promptly as the next stage of the process is to seek further input from potential providers through market engagement events intended to commence in In January 2023

Once we have analysed the responses to the Questionnaires, we will seek to invite a minimum number of organisations in order to perform a demo and provide commentary on an approach they would take.

Once the MoJ have gauged market interest, we will issue an invite to selected interested parties, confirming the dates, timings and location of supplier forum(s)/event(s).

Potential providers will not be prejudiced by any response to this PIN, or failure to respond. This PIN does not formally signify the beginning of a procurement and does not constitute a commitment by the MoJ to undertake any procurement exercise. The MoJ will reserve its rights as to the procurement route used. In the event that a suitable pre-existing framework is identified during market engagement the MoJ may decide not to issue a contract notice. Should a suitable framework not be identified and the MoJ decides to formally commence the procurement for the EM Future Services in England and Wales, a separate notice will be issued through the Find a Tender service.