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Tender

Bi-Lateral GLA Aviation Services Project

Northern Lighthouse Board
The Corporation of Trinity House

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-003294

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-043c4f

Published 31 January 2025, 2:05pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Northern Lighthouse Board

84 George Street, Northern Lighthouse Board

Edinburgh

EH2 3DA

Contact

Northern Lighthouse Board

Email

procurement@nlb.org.uk

Telephone

+44 1314733131

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.nlb.org.uk>

Buyer's address

<https://www.nlb.org.uk>

I.1) Name and addresses

The Corporation of Trinity House

Trinity House, Tower Hill,

London

EC3N 4DH

Email

procurement@nlb.org.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://trinityhouse.co.uk>

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract involves joint procurement

I.3) Communication

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

<https://www.delta-esourcing.com/>

Additional information can be obtained from another address:

Northern Lighthouse Board

84 George Street, Northern Lighthouse Board

Edinburgh

EH2 3DA

Contact

Angela Cahill

Email

procurement@nlb.org.uk

Telephone

+44 1314733131

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.nlb.org.uk

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Aid to Navigation for UK, Scotland and the Isle of Man

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Bi-Lateral GLA Aviation Services Project

Reference number

GLA/HELI/2221

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 60424120 - Hire of helicopters with crew

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The procurement of the Northern Lighthouse Board and the Corporation of Trinity House

(together the General Lighthouse Authorities (GLAs)) helicopter services support for their Marine Aids to Navigation Strategy to 2037 by providing the means to access and maintain their more remote Aids to Navigation. An effective helicopter service is a vital element in the provision of the GLAs' service to the mariner: a reliable, efficient and cost-effective network of marine Aids to Navigation. The required outcomes of this contract are:

-A reliable, integrated, passenger and cargo (internal and underslung) service.

-A helicopter service which is able to recover from weather, aircraft technical failure and other disruptions to planned activities

-A service able to respond quickly and efficiently to casualties (light or other navigational aid failures) at any time and in any place in the United Kingdom, Isle of Man and Channel Islands.

* Please note this contract is being procured as a Bi-GLA.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £67,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 34711500 - Helicopters
- 35612300 - Support helicopters
- 35613000 - Unmanned aerial vehicles
- 60440000 - Aerial and related services
- 34711400 - Special-purpose aircraft

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

UNITED KINGDOM

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Key Requirements:

-Capable of landing on a helipad with a safe loading of four tonnes on a footprint of 250mm x 250mm.

-Capable of operating from the helidecks of the GLA vessels.

Task examples:

- A smaller task would be to carry two technicians with small tools and emergency overnight kit to a lighthouse in the morning and return later the same day; the radius of action is likely to be between 5 and 100 nm.

- A larger task might require twelve workers, their baggage and several tons of underslung material to be carried out in several trips from a vessel close by or an onshore location nearby and brought back a few days or weeks later. In practice there are a wide variety of tasks in terms of size, distance and complexity.

A task may change to include underslung loads at any time Underslung loads represent between 15 and 32% of the operational flying tasks per year (averaging 22%). They are usually flown from a GLA vessel close by or from an accessible point on the nearest mainland to reduce the distance and duration of the operation. The support of building and renovation tasks at lighthouses creates the requirement for a great variety of weights, shapes, sizes, and natures of underslung loads with different aerodynamic characteristics.

The helicopter service will be required throughout the operating areas of the two GLAs (except Gibraltar).

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 50

Quality criterion - Name: Social Value / Weighting: 10

Cost criterion - Name: Financial / Weighting: 40

II.2.6) Estimated value

Value excluding VAT: £67,000,000

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

Start date

12 July 2026

End date

30 November 2039

This contract is subject to renewal

No

II.2.9) Information about the limits on the number of candidates to be invited

Envisaged minimum number: 3

Maximum number: 6

Objective criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates:

as stated within procurement documents

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

Following a period of mobilisation (expected to be from July 2026 to November 2027), the anticipated term of the ASP contract is ten (10) years from the service commencement date

(expected to be 1 December 2027) with an option to extend for a further two (2) years

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

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

II.2.14) Additional information

The GLA Helicopters are to be twin turbine helicopters equipped, certified and capable of operating single pilot Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) operations and to operate under Sub-Part HOFO, capable of:

- operating from legacy helidecks of GLA vessels
- operating from sub-1D elevated lantern top helipad
- operating on rough and uneven ground (including ground with bird nesting holes and burrows).

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

As stated within procurement documents

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

Where tenderers are bidding as part of a group of economic operators (e.g a consortium), the GLAs reserve the right to require tenderers to assume a specific legal form for the purpose of the award of the contract (e.g. establishing a special purpose vehicle (SPV)). Where a tenderer relies upon the capacities of other entities with regard to criteria relating to economic and financial standing, the GLAs reserve the right to require that the tenderer and those entities be jointly and severally liable.

The GLAs intend to require the successful tenderer to provide a parent company guarantee/guarantees and/or other form of suitable security (including a performance bond) on terms acceptable to the GLAs. Please refer to the procurement documents for further information.

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Competitive procedure with negotiation

IV.1.4) Information about reduction of the number of solutions or tenders during negotiation or dialogue

Recourse to staged procedure to gradually reduce the number of solutions to be discussed or tenders to be negotiated

IV.1.5) Information about negotiation

The contracting authority reserves the right to award the contract on the basis of the initial tenders without conducting negotiations

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 000-005884](#)

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

Date

3 March 2025

IV.2.3) Estimated date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates

12 May 2025

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

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: Yes

Estimated timing for further notices to be published: 2037

VI.2) Information about electronic workflows

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

VI.3) Additional information

The contracting authority considers that this contract may be suitable for economic operators that are small or medium enterprises (SMEs). However, any selection of tenderers will be based solely on the criteria set out for the procurement. The GLAs considers that this contract may be suitable for economic operators that are small or medium enterprises (SMEs). However, any selection of tenderers will be based solely on the selection criteria set out for the procurement which is set out in the procurement documents.

At this stage of the process, the procurement documents include this Contract Notice, the Selection Questionnaire (SQ) Evaluation criteria and the Memorandum of Information (MoI). It is in each tenderer's interest to access the information as soon as possible.

All SQ submissions will be evaluated and a short list shall be formed. It is anticipated that the shortlist will consist of up to 6 suppliers who have passed all relevant sections of the SQ and achieved the highest scores in the assessment of scored questions. Only shortlisted suppliers will receive an Invitation to Negotiate (ITN).

The GLAs are not liable for any costs incurred, including in respect of expressing an interest in, submitting an SQ response, tendering for or otherwise participating in this opportunity. The GLAs reserve the right at their absolute discretion and at any time to vary the procurement and to not award a contract and cancel the procurement.

For more information about this opportunity, please visit the Delta eSourcing portal at:

<https://nlb.delta-sourcing.com/tenders/UK-UK-Edinburgh:-Hire-of-helicopters-with-crew./4D48H2YJ6T>

To respond to this opportunity, please click here:

<https://nlb.delta-sourcing.com/respond/4D48H2YJ6T>

GO Reference: GO-2025131-PRO-29275272

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The High Court of Justice

Royal Courts of Justice, Strand

London

Wc2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

Northern Lighthouse Board

Edinburgh

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

An economic operator which suffers, or risks suffering, loss or damage attributable to a breach of duty owed under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 may bring proceedings in the High Court.

VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained

Northern Lighthouse Board

Edinburgh

Country

United Kingdom