

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/003773-2024>

Tender

## **Legal Services**

THE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH EAST COUNCILS LIMITED

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-003773

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04375a

Published 5 February 2024, 5:14pm

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

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

THE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH EAST COUNCILS LIMITED

Northern Design Centre, Abbots Hill, Baltic Business Quarter

Gateshead

NE8 3DF

#### **Contact**

Carl Telford

#### **Email**

[professional.services@nepo.org](mailto:professional.services@nepo.org)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1916380040

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKC - North East (England)

**Justification for not providing organisation identifier**

Not on any register

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.nepo.org](http://www.nepo.org)

**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

[www.open-uk.org](http://www.open-uk.org)

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

[www.open-uk.org](http://www.open-uk.org)

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

Regional or local Agency/Office

**I.5) Main activity**

General public services

---

## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Legal Services

Reference number

NEPO513

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 79100000 - Legal services

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

The Association of North East Councils Trading as the North East Procurement Organisation (NEPO) is seeking to establish a multi-supplier Framework Agreement for the provision of legal services for use by contracting authorities throughout the United Kingdom

The opportunity can be accessed via the Open eTendering system. Suppliers wishing to be considered for this Framework Agreement must register their expression of interest and submit a tender through the Open eTendering System. If not already registered, candidates should register on the Open eTendering system at <https://www.open-uk.org/>

Tenders must be submitted using the link above. Tenders submitted via post or email methods will not be accepted.

If you need technical assistance from the Open Support team, this can be requested via [open.support@nepo.org](mailto:open.support@nepo.org)

PLEASE NOTE: Open is accessible 24/7 however, technical support is available Monday - Thursday 8:30 - 5pm and Friday 8.30 - 4.30pm

For guidance on how to submit your response through Open, please visit <https://www.open-hub.org/training> to access the available Training Guides.

NEPO does not give any guarantee and/or warrant the actual value of orders (if any) that

will be placed with the successful suppliers by any Contracting Authority using the Framework Agreement pursuant to this process and accepts no liability thereof.

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

Value excluding VAT: £100,000,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

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

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

- 79100000 - Legal services

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

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

NEPO are using an open procedure for the procurement of this Framework Agreement for the provision of Legal Services.

NEPO intends to select only the top 30 (thirty) ranked (i.e. highest scoring) Tenderers as Providers. However, NEPO reserves the right to appoint additional Providers to the Framework where the overall difference in scores between the thirtieth-ranked Tenderer and following ranked Tenderer(s) is 5% or less.

#### **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: £100,000,000

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

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

This Framework Agreement will be a direct replacement for the current NEPO513 Framework Agreement for Legal Services. It is anticipated that this Framework Agreement will be subject to future renewals

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

Variants will be accepted: No

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

Options: 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

---

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

Date

11 March 2024

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

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

Date

11 March 2024

Local time

12:01pm

---

## Section VI. Complementary information

### VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: Yes

Estimated timing for further notices to be published: 12 months prior to the published expiry date

### VI.3) Additional information

NEPO is a Central Purchasing Body as defined in the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (PCR15). This means that NEPO may provide central purchasing activity on behalf of Contracting Authorities.

The agreement will be available for use by all NEPO Members within the North East region. A list of member organisations is available in the About section of the NEPO website at: [www.nepo.org](http://www.nepo.org)

This agreement will also be made available to all current and future NEPO Associate Members throughout the North East region. Current Associate Members are listed in the Associate Member section of the NEPO website at: [www.nepo.org/associate-membership/list](http://www.nepo.org/associate-membership/list)

NEPO intends to make the resulting agreement available for use by all Contracting Authorities throughout the North East region (as defined by the Public Contracts Regulations 2015) including but not limited to Government Departments and their Agencies, Non-Departmental Public Bodies, Central Government, NHS Bodies, Local Authorities, Emergency Services, Coastguard Emergency Services, Educational Establishments, Registered Social Landlords and Registered Charities who have a need to purchase the above services.

Please see the following websites for further details:

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DI1/Directories/Localcouncils/index.htm>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education>

<https://www.gov.uk/check-a-university-is-officially-recognised/recognised-bodies>

<http://www.schoolswebdirectory.co.uk/localauthorities.php>

<http://www.ukschoolsdirectory.net>

<https://www.gov.uk/find-school-in-england>

<http://apps.education-ni.gov.uk/appinstitutes/default.aspx>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/open-academies-and-academy-projects-in-development>

<http://unistats.direct.gov.uk/institutions/>

<http://www.hefce.ac.uk/workprovide/unicoll/heis/>

<http://www.hefce.ac.uk/workprovide/unicoll/fecs/>

<http://www.nhs.uk/ServiceDirectories/Pages/AcuteTrustListing.aspx>

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DI1/Directories/A-ZOfCentralGovernment/index.htm>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations>

<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/contact>

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/>

<http://www.police.uk/forces.htm>

<http://www.police-information.co.uk/index.html>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/maritime-and-coastguard-agency>

<http://www.fireservice.co.uk/information/ukfrs>

<http://www.fire.org.uk/fire-brigades.html>

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/current-registered-providers-of-social-housing>

<http://apps.charitycommission.gov.uk/Showcharity/RegisterOfCharities/registerhomepage.aspx>

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/newsroom/factsandfigures/housingplanning1/facts/socialhousing/?id=1822644>

A complete list of permissible users is shown on the NEPO website below:

<https://www.nepo.org/associate-membership/permissible-users>

Organisations wishing to access the NEPO agreement will be required to register as a NEPO Associate Member in the first instance.

Further information can be found at: [www.nepo.org](http://www.nepo.org)

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

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

NEPO

Northern Design Centre, Abbots Hill, Baltic Business Quarter

Gateshead

NE8 3DF

Email

[hello@nepo.org](mailto:hello@nepo.org)

Country

United Kingdom