

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/004012-2024>

Planning

## **Market Engagement – Kent Bioresources Project; Treatment and disposal of bioresources (sewage sludge) in Kent (UK)**

Southern Water Services Ltd.

F04: Periodic indicative notice – utilities

Periodic indicative notice only

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-004012

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0437cf

Published 7 February 2024, 11:01am

### **Section I: Contracting entity**

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

Southern Water Services Ltd.

Southern House

Worthing

BN13 3NX

#### **Email**

[bioresources@southernwater.co.uk](mailto:bioresources@southernwater.co.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1903264444

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

**National registration number**

02366670

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.southernwater.co.uk](http://www.southernwater.co.uk)

Buyer's address

<https://southernwater.bravosolution.co.uk/>

**I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Electronic communication requires the use of tools and devices that are not generally available. Unrestricted and full direct access to these tools and devices is possible, free of charge, at

<https://southernwater.bravosolution.co.uk/>

**I.6) Main activity**

Water

---

**Section II: Object**

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

**II.1.1) Title**

Market Engagement – Kent Bioresources Project; Treatment and disposal of bioresources (sewage sludge) in Kent (UK)

Reference number

Prj\_4015

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

- 90400000 - Sewage services

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

Services

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

Southern Water is currently conducting a Market Engagement initiative focused on the treatment and disposal of sewage sludge (bioresources). This involves a comprehensive contract that encompasses the design, construction, financing, and potentially the operation and maintenance of advanced sludge treatment facilities. Southern Water invites participation from potential investors and suppliers to actively contribute to this exercise. The aim is to gain a deeper understanding of market capabilities and interests, setting out the groundwork for a potential subsequent tender.

This is not a call for competition.

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

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

- 09000000 - Petroleum products, fuel, electricity and other sources of energy
- 42000000 - Industrial machinery
- 42996900 - Sludge-processing equipment
- 45000000 - Construction work
- 45200000 - Works for complete or part construction and civil engineering work
- 45232422 - Sludge-treatment works
- 45252127 - Wastewater treatment plant construction work
- 45252140 - Sludge-dewatering plant construction work
- 45253700 - Digestion plant construction work

- 50000000 - Repair and maintenance services
- 65400000 - Other sources of energy supplies and distribution
- 66100000 - Banking and investment services
- 66122000 - Corporate finance and venture capital services
- 71242000 - Project and design preparation, estimation of costs
- 71311300 - Infrastructure works consultancy services
- 71322000 - Engineering design services for the construction of civil engineering works
- 71500000 - Construction-related services
- 71540000 - Construction management services
- 71541000 - Construction project management services
- 71800000 - Consulting services for water-supply and waste consultancy
- 90000000 - Sewage, refuse, cleaning and environmental services
- 90492000 - Sewage treatment consultancy services
- 90513000 - Non-hazardous refuse and waste treatment and disposal services
- 90513600 - Sludge removal services
- 90513700 - Sludge transport services
- 90513800 - Sludge treatment services
- 90513900 - Sludge disposal services

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

NUTS codes

- UKJ - South East (England)

Main site or place of performance

Kent, Sussex, Hampshire, Isle of Wight

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

We are planning to restructure our bioresource (sludge) treatment facilities in Kent, consolidating our smaller treatment centres into two larger sites. We are currently

processing approximately 42,000 tonnes dry solids (TDS) of raw sludge per year in that region (un-screened, screened, un-thickened, thickened liquid and screened dewatered cake derived from a range of wastewater treatment works) which are treated under conventional digestion followed by either maturation or liming of the treated sludge (Biosolids) for agricultural use. The biogas produced is used in combined heat & power (CHP) engines to generate heat & electricity, both used on site or exported (electricity).

Our strategy involves replacing current assets and expanding capacity to process approximately 46,000 (TDS) of raw sludge. We plan to achieve this through the implementation of new advanced anaerobic digestion (AAD) technology at two proposed sites, namely Ashford and Ham Hill. Additionally, there is potential for the recovery of various resources, including ammonia.

We aim to collaborate with interested parties to jointly develop and implement our strategy. We are exploring a Design, Build, Finance (and potentially Operate & Maintain) model. This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is issued by Southern Water to initiate discussions and gain insights into the potential solutions and opportunities identified by potential investors and the broader industry.

For the avoidance of doubt, the purpose of this Periodic Indicative Notice (PIN) is to conduct a market testing exercise only and will not formally begin the procurement nor constitute any commitment by Southern Water to undertake any procurement exercise nor form a commercial strategy in a particular form. Any follow-up discussions and responses to the Request for Information (RFI) are solely for information and planning purposes.

#### **II.2.14) Additional information**

Additional information can be obtained from our e-sourcing portal:

<https://southernwater.bravosolution.co.uk/>

It is free to register on the portal, which can be accessed at any time of day.

Southern Water plan on holding a market engagement in the week commencing 26th February 2024, further information will be provided via our e-sourcing portal.

#### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

3 January 2025

---

## **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: No

---

## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

All costs incurred with participating in this exercise will be at the interested parties own expense. Southern Water will not reimburse costs for any reason.

This PIN associated Request for Information (including subsequent related communications) does not constitute a Request for Proposal (RFP) or a commitment to issue an RFP or any other type of call for competition.

Opting not to respond to this exercise will not exclude you from participating in any future RFP or other competition. Notes will be taken during discussions to assist our Request for Information (RFI) analysis. Southern Water may share a generalised, anonymised summary of the feedback received.

The deadline for responses to the RFI questions is 4th March 2024

We are at the very early stages of our planning and the published contract notice date is purely indicative, and subject to change. Further updates will be provided to the market in due course.