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Tender

Digital Economy Strategic Partnership

West Midlands Combined Authority

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-004077

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-031688

Published 11 February 2022, 10:45pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

West Midlands Combined Authority

16 Summer Lane

Birmingham

B19 3SD

Email

procurement.team@wmca.org.uk

Telephone

+44 3453036760

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKG - West Midlands (England)

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

I.3) Communication

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

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

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

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

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

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Regional or local authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Digital Economy Strategic Partnership

Reference number

03643-2021

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79411000 - General management consultancy services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The WMCA are looking for a tech organisation to support the delivery of a small number of specific activities to grow the digital and tech economy. As well as these specific interventions, we would expect this organisation to provide broader support and advocacy for the regional tech and digital sector.

The interventions outlined are for the financial years 2022/23 and 2023/24.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £200,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKG - West Midlands (England)

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

In brief, this piece of consultancy work will cover the following specific activities:

- Establish a network of West Midlands tech and digital ‘ambassadors’ – individuals or firms that have their roots in the West Midlands but now operate in another country or part of the UK. This network should provide support and mentorship to existing West Midlands firms and provide greater connectivity to firms or investors abroad.
- Support the recruitment process for a West Midlands Tech Commissioner, to provide a visible point of leadership for the digital and tech economy. This individual would advocate for our sector, engage with investors, encourage firms to relocate, and advise the WMCA Economy team and Mayor on how to achieve our aims. Also provide ongoing support for the West Midlands Tech Commissioner once recruited, linking them to opportunities for advocacy and engagement.
- Support the establishment of workspaces for digital and tech entrepreneurs/start-ups, particularly in places that are underserved and for communities that don’t access existing provision. This should be through engagement with firms that provide co-working and accelerator spaces, aligned with WMGC activity, and partnering with Housing and Regeneration teams in the LA/WMCA to identify potential sites. This should also align with work being undertaken to develop the regional business support system, ensuring that workspaces can benefit from any advisory or support services being commissioned through WMCA.
- Work with the WMCA to ensure that we maximise the value of the Co-Invest Fund for the digital and tech sector. This could include the establishment of a specific portal or guidance for digital and tech firms.
- Close working with the WMCA’s partners (including, but not exclusively, Local Authorities, Local Enterprise Partnerships, Chambers of Commerce, Make UK, UKie, Federation of Small Businesses, CBI etc...)
- Reporting of progress: The winning tenderer will report progress to the WMCA Economic Growth Board. The WMCA Economy team will provide support in how this engagement functions, but it will be important to provide updates and assurance to the board and to use their insight (and that of the WMCA’s partners – see above) in developing projects.
- In delivery of the contract, the winning tenderer will be expected to raise significant matched commercial funding to match this public investment over the course of the two years (this may be from in-kind sponsorship/donations from the private sector, or other that would count as ‘match’). There is no expectation that external ‘match’ funding would in place at the beginning of the contract.

- In delivery of the contract, the winning tenderer will be expected to take into account (and have regard to) the range of other WMCA aims and policies, which include green and inclusive growth.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

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

Duration in months

12

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

One (1) x 12 months

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

WMCA can cancel for convenience after twelve (12) months.

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 IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

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

14 March 2022

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

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

14 March 2022

Local time

12:30pm

Place

WMCA offices or remotely (as required)

Information about authorised persons and opening procedure

David Bailey - sequential opening of tenders

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.2) Information about electronic workflows

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Royal Courts of Justice

London

Country

United Kingdom