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Award

ETS-21-004 Programme Assistance Services to support the delivery of the EdIS Programme

the Education Authority

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-004415

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-045380

Published 10 February 2025, 4:06pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

the Education Authority

40 Academy Street

Belfast

BT1 2NQ

Email

laura.magee@eani.org.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Buyer's address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

ETS-21-004 Programme Assistance Services to support the delivery of the EdIS Programme

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79400000 - Business and management consultancy and related services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Programme Assistance Services to enable support for the delivery of the EdIS Programme of work. EA procured an external programme delivery partner to support and assist the current EdIS Programme delivery team. The supplier provides services as and when required on a call-off basis for all workstreams.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £2,700,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Programme Assistance Services to enable support for the delivery of the EdIS Programme of work. EA procured an external programme delivery partner to support and assist the current EdIS Programme delivery team. The supplier provides services as and when required on a call-off basis for all workstreams.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 80

Price - Weighting: 20

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

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

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

This opportunity was originally awarded as a call-off contract following a further competition under Crown Commercial Services Management Consultancy Framework RM3745 Lot 6 Education.

In November 2022 modification notice 2022/S 000-033436 was published to increase the value by 50% of the original awarded contract value i.e. an additional £1,350,000. A further modification notice 2024/S 000-012747 was published in April 2024 to extend the duration of the contract by an additional period from 03 September 2024 until 31 March 2025.

The purpose of this VEAT notice is to inform the market that EA now intends to further modify the contract to extend for a further 2 years until 31 March 2027 and increase the value by £1,350,000 i.e. 50% of the original awarded contract value. The new total contract value will be £6,750,000.

No aspect of the modification will alter the overall nature of the current contract as the scope of services will remain unaltered and any expenditure will not be permitted to exceed 50% of the original awarded contract value.

For technical reasons a change in supplier is not possible at this stage. The provider has been contracted to provide support and advice on specific projects over the last number of years and has built up critical knowledge and understanding which will be required to proceed with strategic projects over the next 2 years, including the new procurement exercise now required for Strategic Partner Services. To contract with a different supplier at this stage would significantly impact timelines for delivery of projects and duplication of costs for the contracting authority.

Regulation 72(1)(b) permits an amendment to an existing contract: for additional works, services or supplies by the original contractor that have become necessary and were not included in the initial procurement, where a change of contractor

- (i) cannot be made for economic or technical reasons such as requirements of interchangeability or interoperability with existing equipment, services or installations procured under the initial procurement, or
- (ii) would cause significant inconvenience or substantial duplication of costs for the contracting authority, provided that any increase in price does not exceed 50% of the value of the original contract.

The EA shall observe a period of no less than 30 days, beginning with the day after the date of publication, before modifying the contract as set out in this notice.

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 000-012747](#)

Section V. Award of contract/concession

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

3 September 2021

V.2.2) Information about tenders

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

Ernst and Young LLP

Belfast

Email

eregan@uk.ey.com

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKN - Northern Ireland

Internet address

<https://www.ey.com>

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £2,700,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The UK does not currently have any such bodies with responsibilities for appeal/mediation procedures

Belfast

Country

United Kingdom