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Contract

## **DOJ - Holistic Support for Victims of Paramilitary Violence**

Department of Justice NI

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-005588

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-030258

Published 1 March 2022, 3:14pm

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

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

Department of Justice NI

C/O Construction and Procurement Delivery, 303 Airport Road West

BELFAST

BT3 9ED

#### **Email**

[justice.cpd@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:justice.cpd@finance-ni.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **NUTS code**

UK - United Kingdom

#### **Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/procurement>

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

Body governed by public law

#### **I.5) Main activity**

General public services

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## **Section II: Object**

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

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

DOJ - Holistic Support for Victims of Paramilitary Violence

Reference number

ID3671887

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

- 85322000 - Community action programme

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

Services

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

The Department of Justice (DoJ) was established in April 2010, following the devolution of policing and justice powers to the Northern Ireland Assembly. The Tackling Paramilitarism Programme Board, chaired by the Head of the Civil Service, has oversight of delivery of the action plan and the Tackling Paramilitarism Programme Team, which coordinates delivery across Executive Departments, ALBs and the voluntary and community sector, is based in the DoJ. An Independent Reporting Commission (IRC) has been set up by the UK and Irish Governments to oversee progress in tackling paramilitarism, including on delivery of the action plan and publishes an annual report. Delivery of the Executive action plan for tackling paramilitary activity, criminality and organised crime (published in 2016) is one of the commitments made in the New Decade, New Approach agreement and is reflected in the Programme for Government/Outcomes Delivery Plan and DoJ Corporate Plan for 2020/21. One of the key issues that remains to be addressed in delivery of the action plan is the continuation of violent attacks on individuals by paramilitary groups. There are a number of voluntary and community sector and oversight bodies pressing for action to address this particular type of violence, including the NI Commissioner for Children and Young People, the Independent Reporting Commission, and the #Stopattacks group. The PSNI has a duty to investigate attacks but often finds its work limited by the unwillingness of victims and witnesses to come forward out of fear and intimidation. Each year there are around 60-80 victims of paramilitary violence (this reflects the numbers recorded in PSNI Statistics; some attacks may go unrecorded and the statistics do not cover threats and intimidation that might precede an attack). In addition to new victims each year, there are victims of historic attacks who may have not yet received any support following their attack and who may benefit from access to a

bespoke programme. These attacks occur across Northern Ireland but particular areas of activity include Belfast, Londonderry, Ards, Coleraine, and Newtownabbey / Glengormley. Victims are often unwilling to contact statutory or other service providers for support out of fear, stigma and intimidation; they fall between gaps in service provision or existing providers may be unaware of their needs or feel unable to take on the role of supporting this challenging client group. Victims need support with a range of issues, most pressingly trauma or counselling support, but also with issues such as drug misuse, debt, self-esteem, training and employment, access to benefits, housing, and family relations. There are existing programmes providing support for these issues but they are not always accessible by victims of paramilitary violence and do not address the specific circumstances (i.e. the attack) that gave rise to their need for support. Some existing programmes, including those being delivered as part of the Executive action plan, focus on specific geographical areas (e.g. specific areas of Belfast, Londonderry, Larne, Carrickfergus, Bangor and Lurgan) or target groups (e.g. preventative work with young men vulnerable to becoming involved in criminality or paramilitary activity). The aim is not to duplicate provision, but to address the specific needs of victims and support them to access existing provision, particularly in areas or with target groups not being picked up in existing programmes (e.g. older men or those in areas with high levels of paramilitary activity, such as Ards, Coleraine, Newtownabbey, other areas within Londonderry). DoJ are therefore seeking to: 1. put in place a programme to support victims of paramilitary violence. 2. provide support to victims 3. build capacity among service providers to work with victims of paramilitary violence. 4. learn about effective approaches and inform work on tackling violence and paramilitarism more generally.

#### **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: £420,000

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

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

- 85312300 - Guidance and counselling services

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

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

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

The Department of Justice (DoJ) was established in April 2010, following the devolution of policing and justice powers to the Northern Ireland Assembly. The Tackling Paramilitarism Programme Board, chaired by the Head of the Civil Service, has oversight of delivery of the action plan and the Tackling Paramilitarism Programme Team, which coordinates delivery across Executive Departments, ALBs and the voluntary and community sector, is based in the DoJ. An Independent Reporting Commission (IRC) has been set up by the UK and Irish Governments to oversee progress in tackling paramilitarism, including on delivery of the action plan and publishes an annual report. Delivery of the Executive action plan for tackling paramilitary activity, criminality and organised crime (published in 2016) is one of the commitments made in the New Decade, New Approach agreement and is reflected in the Programme for Government/Outcomes Delivery Plan and DoJ Corporate Plan for 2020/21. One of the key issues that remains to be addressed in delivery of the action plan is the continuation of violent attacks on individuals by paramilitary groups. There are a number of voluntary and community sector and oversight bodies pressing for action to address this particular type of violence, including the NI Commissioner for Children and Young People, the Independent Reporting Commission, and the #Stopattacks group. The PSNI has a duty to investigate attacks but often finds its work limited by the unwillingness of victims and witnesses to come forward out of fear and intimidation. Each year there are around 60-80 victims of paramilitary violence (this reflects the numbers recorded in PSNI Statistics; some attacks may go unrecorded and the statistics do not cover threats and intimidation that might precede an attack). In addition to new victims each year, there are victims of historic attacks who may have not yet received any support following their attack and who may benefit from access to a bespoke programme. These attacks occur across Northern Ireland but particular areas of activity include Belfast, Londonderry, Ards, Coleraine, and Newtownabbey / Glengormley. Victims are often unwilling to contact statutory or other service providers for support out of fear, stigma and intimidation; they fall between gaps in service provision or existing providers may be unaware of their needs or feel unable to take on the role of supporting this challenging client group. Victims need support with a range of issues, most pressingly trauma or counselling support, but also with issues such as drug misuse, debt, self-esteem, training and employment, access to benefits, housing, and family relations. There are existing programmes providing support for these issues but they are not always accessible by victims of paramilitary violence and do not address the specific circumstances (i.e. the attack) that gave rise to their need for support. Some existing programmes, including those being delivered as part of the Executive action plan, focus on specific geographical areas (e.g. specific areas of Belfast, Londonderry, Larne, Carrickfergus, Bangor and Lurgan) or target groups (e.g. preventative work with young men vulnerable to becoming involved in criminality or paramilitary activity). The aim is not to duplicate provision, but to address the specific needs of victims and support them to access existing provision, particularly in areas or with target groups not being picked up in existing programmes (e.g. older men or those in areas with high levels of paramilitary activity, such as Ards, Coleraine, Newtownabbey, other areas within Londonderry). DoJ are therefore seeking to: 1. put in place a programme to support victims of paramilitary

violence. 2. provide support to victims 3. build capacity among service providers to work with victims of paramilitary violence. 4. learn about effective approaches and inform work on tackling violence and paramilitarism more generally.

### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Quality criterion - Name: AC1 Proposed Programme Approach / Weighting: 25

Quality criterion - Name: AC 2 Organisational Experience / Weighting: 13

Quality criterion - Name: AC3 Personnel Experience / Weighting: 12

Quality criterion - Name: AC4 Programme Governance Arrangements / Weighting: 5

Quality criterion - Name: AC5 Data Protection / Weighting: 5

Cost criterion - Name: AC6 Total Contract Price / Weighting: 40

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

Options: Yes

Description of options

Two year initial period, one X one year option available

### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

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

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## **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.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure**

Notice number: [2021/S 000-031457](#)

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## **Section V. Award of contract**

### **Contract No**

1

### **Title**

DOJ - Holistic Support for Victims of Paramilitary Violence

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

14 February 2022

#### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

Number of tenders received: 1

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 1

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 1

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 1

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

**V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

Information withheld for security reasons

Information withheld for security reasons

Email

[justice.cpd@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:justice.cpd@finance-ni.gov.uk)

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/procurement>

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £420,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £420,000



## Section VI. Complementary information

### VI.3) Additional information

Please note that information relating to contractors engaged by the Northern Ireland Department of Justice, and associated bodies is not published in any publicly accessible forum or publication. This is to protect such contractors, whose security and safety could be threatened by dissident terrorist organisations still active in Northern Ireland if their details became known. This is consistent with Regulation 50(6)(a).. . The estimated contract value is a broad estimate only and includes additional quantum for unforeseen demand and to future proof for additional potential. There is no guarantee of any level of business under this contract. The estimate is not deemed to be a condition of contract nor a guarantee of minimum demand or uptake. No compensation will be payable to a contractor should the actual demand be less than that stated.. . The successful contractor's performance on this contract will be managed as per specification and regularly monitored (see Procurement Guidance Note 1/12 Contract Management: <https://www.financeni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/dfp/PGN-01012-Contract-Management-Principles-Procedures-25-Sept-2017.PDF>). Contractors not delivering on contract requirements is a serious matter. It means the public purse is not getting what it is paying for. If a contractor fails to reach satisfactory levels of contract performance they will be given a specified time to improve. If, after the specified time, they still fail to reach satisfactory levels of contract performance, the matter will be escalated to senior management in Construction and Procurement Delivery for further action. If this occurs and their performance still does not improve to satisfactory levels within the specified period, it may be regarded as an act of grave professional misconduct and they may be issued with a notice of written warning and notice of unsatisfactory performance and this contract may be terminated. The issue of a notice of written warning and notice of unsatisfactory performance will result in the contractor being excluded from all procurement competitions being undertaken by Centres of Procurement Expertise on behalf of bodies covered by the Northern Ireland Procurement Policy for a period of up to 3 years from the date of issue of the notice.

### VI.4) Procedures for review

#### VI.4.1) Review body

See VI.4.3 / Review procedure

See VI.4.3 / Review procedure

Country

United Kingdom

### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

The UK does not have any special review body with responsibility for appeal/mediation procedures in public procurement competitions. Instead, any challenges are dealt with by the High Court, Commercial Division, to which proceedings may be issued regarding alleged breaches of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.