

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/005627-2025>

Tender

Framework for the provision of Legal Services

University of Essex
Dukefield Procurement Limited

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-005627

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04e35d

Published 18 February 2025, 2:54pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

University of Essex

Wivenhoe Park

Colchester

CO4 3SQ

Email

philip.sweeting@essex.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 1206872954

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.essex.ac.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.essex.ac.uk/>

I.1) Name and addresses

Dukefield Procurement Limited

Parkside House 167, Chorley

Bolton

BL1 4RA

Email

nichola.gill@dukefieldprocurement.co.uk

Telephone

+44 7935355773

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKD3 - Greater Manchester

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.dukefield.co.uk/about-us/>

Buyer's address

<http://www.dukefield.co.uk/about-us/>

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract involves joint procurement

I.3) Communication

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

<https://suppliers.multiquote.com>

Additional information can be obtained from another address:

University of Essex

Wivenhoe Park

Colchester

CO4 3SQ

Email

philip.sweeting@essex.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 1206872954

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.essex.ac.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.essex.ac.uk/>

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://suppliers.multiquote.com>

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

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

Framework for the provision of Legal Services

Reference number

CA15268 - UOE/DU/LEGAL/01

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79100000 - Legal services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The Framework will provide access to a comprehensive range of Legal Services.

It is let by the University of Essex and is open for use by all contracting authorities across the public sector throughout the UK (and any future successors to these organisations).

These include (but not limited to) central government departments and agencies, Non Departmental Public Bodies, NHS bodies, Local Authorities, Police Authorities, Emergency Services, Educational Establishments, Hospices, Registered Charities, National Parks, Registered Social Landlords and any other body permitted by the Contracting Authority. Full details of the classification of eligible end user establishments and geographical areas is available at

<https://www.dukefieldprocurement.co.uk/fts-eligible-users> .

The Framework will be let across seven (7) Lots. There will be a maximum of eight (8) suppliers awarded a place on each of the Lots.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £63,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Tenders may be submitted for maximum number of lots

7

Maximum number of lots that may be awarded to one tenderer: 7

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

One Stop Shop

Lot No

1

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79140000 - Legal advisory and information services
- 79112000 - Legal representation services
- 79130000 - Legal documentation and certification services
- 79132000 - Certification services
- 79110000 - Legal advisory and representation services

- 79131000 - Documentation services
- 79111000 - Legal advisory services
- 79100000 - Legal services
- 79120000 - Patent and copyright consultancy services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This Lot is designed to meet the Legal Services needs of organisations across the public sector throughout the entire United Kingdom. The Lot covers a comprehensive range of Legal Services but available across several workstreams including Human Resources Services, Academy Conversion and Post Conversion Services, Property Services, Commercial Services and Dispute and Litigation Services. Full details of the service provision are contained within the Invitation to Tender documentation. There will be a maximum of 8 suppliers awarded a place on this framework Lot.

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: £9,000,000

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

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

No

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

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

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Legal Services: Human Resources, Pensions and People

Lot No

2

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79110000 - Legal advisory and representation services
- 79120000 - Patent and copyright consultancy services
- 79130000 - Legal documentation and certification services
- 79100000 - Legal services
- 79131000 - Documentation services
- 79112000 - Legal representation services
- 79111000 - Legal advisory services
- 79140000 - Legal advisory and information services
- 79132000 - Certification services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This Lot is designed to meet the needs of organisations across the public sector for legal advice of a Human Resources, Pensions and People perspective. The Lot covers a comprehensive range of Human, Resources, Pensions and People related Legal Services. Full details of the service provision are contained within the Invitation to Tender documentation. There will be a maximum of 8 suppliers awarded a place on this framework

Lot.

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: £9,000,000

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

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

No

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

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

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Legal Services: Academy Conversion and Post Conversion Services

Lot No

3

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79100000 - Legal services
- 79120000 - Patent and copyright consultancy services
- 79131000 - Documentation services
- 79130000 - Legal documentation and certification services
- 79111000 - Legal advisory services
- 79132000 - Certification services
- 79110000 - Legal advisory and representation services
- 79112000 - Legal representation services
- 79140000 - Legal advisory and information services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This Lot is designed to meet the needs of organisations across the public sector for Academy Conversion and Post Conversion services. The Lot covers a comprehensive range of Academy Conversion and Post Conversion Legal Services. Full details of the service provision are contained within the Invitation to Tender documentation. There will

be a maximum of 8 suppliers awarded a place on this framework Lot.

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: £9,000,000

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

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

No

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

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

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Legal Services: Property

Lot No

4

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79132000 - Certification services
- 79130000 - Legal documentation and certification services
- 79140000 - Legal advisory and information services
- 79131000 - Documentation services
- 79100000 - Legal services
- 79111000 - Legal advisory services
- 79112000 - Legal representation services
- 79120000 - Patent and copyright consultancy services
- 79110000 - Legal advisory and representation services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This Lot is designed to meet the needs of organisations across the entire public sector for property legal services. The Lot covers a comprehensive range of Property Legal Services. Full details of the service provision are contained within the Invitation to Tender documentation. There will be a maximum of 8 suppliers awarded a place on this framework Lot.

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: £9,000,000

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

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

No

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

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

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Legal Services: Commercial – Contracts, Procurement Governance and related matters

Lot No

5

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79100000 - Legal services
- 79132000 - Certification services
- 79110000 - Legal advisory and representation services
- 79120000 - Patent and copyright consultancy services
- 79130000 - Legal documentation and certification services
- 79112000 - Legal representation services
- 79140000 - Legal advisory and information services
- 79131000 - Documentation services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This Lot is designed to meet the commercial legal services needs of organisations across the entire public. The Lot covers a comprehensive range of commercial - contracts, procurement, governance and related matters legal services. Full details of the service provision are contained within the Invitation to Tender documentation. There will be a maximum of 8 suppliers awarded a place on this framework Lot.

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: £9,000,000

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

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

No

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

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

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Legal Services: Dispute Resolution and Litigation

Lot No

6

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79131000 - Documentation services
- 79130000 - Legal documentation and certification services
- 79140000 - Legal advisory and information services
- 79120000 - Patent and copyright consultancy services
- 79132000 - Certification services
- 79112000 - Legal representation services
- 79100000 - Legal services
- 79110000 - Legal advisory and representation services
- 79111000 - Legal advisory services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This Lot is designed to meet the dispute resolution and litigation needs of organisations across the entire public sector. The Lot covers a comprehensive range of dispute resolution and litigation legal services. Full details of the service provision are contained

within the Invitation to Tender documentation. There will be a maximum of 8 suppliers awarded a place on this framework Lot.

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: £9,000,000

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

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

No

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

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

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Legal Services for Education (including Universities and Higher Education)

Lot No

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79100000 - Legal services
- 79112000 - Legal representation services
- 79110000 - Legal advisory and representation services
- 79130000 - Legal documentation and certification services
- 79132000 - Certification services
- 79131000 - Documentation services
- 79111000 - Legal advisory services
- 79140000 - Legal advisory and information services
- 79120000 - Patent and copyright consultancy services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This Lot is designed to meet the education legal services needs of organisations across the entire public sector. The Lot covers the comprehensive suite of Legal Services detailed within the Lot 1 National One Stop Shop Lot from an Education perspective plus access to Education specific services, particularly with reference to Higher Education and the University sector. Full details of the service provision are contained within the Invitation to Tender documentation. There will be a maximum of 8 suppliers awarded a place on this framework Lot.

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: £9,000,000

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

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

No

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

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 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

Envisaged maximum number of participants to the framework agreement: 56

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

31 March 2025

Local time

12:00pm

IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted

English

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

31 March 2025

Local time

12:00pm

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.3) Additional information

The University of Essex's Internal Reference Number is UOE/DU/LEGAL/01. The framework is being delivered by the University of Essex and its partners Dukefield Procurement Ltd (who are a subsidiary of Dukefield Ltd). Dukefield Procurement Ltd are acting as agents of the University of Essex in the development and ongoing contract management of this framework. The contracting authority will be using an eTendering system to conduct the procurement exercise. To access the procurement documentation suppliers must register their company details on the Sourcing Cloud system at:

<https://suppliers.multiquote.com>

The tender is available from the opportunities menu on the login page of the site. The Contracting Authority shall not be under any obligation to accept the lowest tender or indeed any tender. The University of Essex expressly reserves the rights:

- (a) to terminate the procurement process and not to award any contract as a result of the procurement process at any time;
- (b) to make whatever changes it may see fit to the content and structure of the procurement as detailed within the tender documentation;
- (c) to award a contract covering only part of its requirements if explicitly detailed within the tender documentation;
- (d) to disqualify any organisation from the process that canvasses any employee of the Contracting Authority during the procurement process or standstill period if applicable;
- (e) seek clarifications to tender responses on the basis that any clarification sought will not confer any undue competitive advantage in the favour of any supplier from whom such

clarifications are being sought;

- (f) where the contracting authority can evidence that there is a conflict of interest, either personal or in consideration of any organisation bidding for the contract, the contracting authority shall have the explicit right to immediately exclude that person or organisation from the tender process entirely;
- (g) where the contracting authority has engaged in any pre-market soft testing prior to the commencement of the procurement process, the contracting authority reserves the right to name any organisation that has been involved in these discussions and release any and all specifications/ discussion documents to the market where appropriate to the subject matter of this procurement;
- (h) the contracting authority will not be liable for any costs incurred by tenderers;
- (i) the value of the framework provided in section II.1.5 is only an estimate and the contracting authority will not guarantee any business through this framework agreement;

and

- (j) the contracting authority wishes to establish a framework agreement open for use by all Public Sector Bodies as stated in II.1.4. Tenderers should note, in reference to section IV.1.3, envisaged maximum number of participants to the framework:

Where, following the evaluation of bids, more than one tenderer is tied with the same final evaluation score and are ranked in the last supplier award position, each of these tenderers shall be deemed to occupy the last framework agreement contract award position for the purpose of calculating the maximum number of suppliers under the framework. The contracting authority will award a framework agreement to additional tenderers on the framework beyond the stated maximum number, where their final evaluation score(s) is within 0.5% of the last placed position on the framework. For the avoidance of doubt, the last placed position in respect of this framework is 8th for all Lots. Therefore, tenderers within 0.5%, along with the tenderer in last placed position, shall be deemed to occupy the last framework agreement contract award position for the framework.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Royal Courts of Justice

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Email

rcj.dco@justice.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.find-court-tribunal.service.gov.uk/courts/royal-courts-of-justice>

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

University of Essex

Wivenhoe Park

Colchester

CO4 3SQ

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.essex.ac.uk/>

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

The University of Essex will incorporate a minimum 10-day standstill period at the point information on the award of contract is communicated to tenderers. Bidders who are unsuccessful shall be informed by the Contracting Authority as soon as possible after the decision is made as to the reasons why the bidder was unsuccessful. If an appeal regarding the award of the contract has not been successfully resolved, the Public Procurement Regulations provide for the aggrieved parties who have been harmed or who are at risk of harm by the breach of the rules to take action in the High Court

(England, Wales and Northern Ireland). Any action must be generally brought within 3 months. If a declaration of ineffectiveness is sought, any such action must be brought within 30 days where the Contracting Authority has communicated the award of the contract and a summary of reasons to tenderers, or otherwise within 6 months of the contract being entered into.

Where a contract has not been entered into, the Court may order the setting aside of the award decision or order the Contracting Authority to amend any document and may award damages. If the Contract has been entered into the Court may, depending on the circumstances, award damages, make a declaration of ineffectiveness, order the Contracting Authority to pay a fine, and/or order that the duration of the contract be shortened. The purpose of the standstill period referred to above is to allow the parties to apply to the Courts to set aside the award decision before the contract is entered into.

VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained

University of Essex

Wivenhoe Park

Colchester

CO4 3SQ

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.essex.ac.uk/>