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Contract

ID 5385517 DfE InterTrade Ireland - Funding Advisory Programme for Established SMEs Phase Four

InterTradelreland

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-005685

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04b55d

Published 18 February 2025, 4:54pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

InterTradelreland

Old Gasworks Business Park, Kilmorey St,

Newry

BT34 2DE

Contact

SSDAdmin.CPDfinance-ni.gov.uk

Email

SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.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

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

ID 5385517 DfE InterTrade Ireland - Funding Advisory Programme for Established SMEs Phase Four

Reference number

5385517

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79412000 - Financial management consultancy services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

InterTradeIreland (the Buyer) wishes to appoint a Supplier to undertake the role of delivery agent for the Funding Advisory Programme for Established SMEs (Phase Four). The overarching aim of the Funding Advisory Programme for Established SMEs is to change a culture of over dependency by SME's on bank finance, educate them on new and alternative sources of non-bank funding and build the financial capacity of SMEs.

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: £490,625

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79400000 - Business and management consultancy and related services
- 79410000 - Business and management consultancy services
- 79411000 - General management consultancy services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

InterTradelreland (the Buyer) wishes to appoint a Supplier to undertake the role of delivery agent for the Funding Advisory Programme for Established SMEs (Phase Four). The overarching aim of the Funding Advisory Programme for Established SMEs is to change a culture of over dependency by SME's on bank finance, educate them on new and alternative sources of non-bank funding and build the financial capacity of SMEs.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: AC1 Proposed Methodology / Weighting: 28

Quality criterion - Name: AC2 Personnel Experience / Weighting: 18.9

Quality criterion - Name: AC3 Contract Management / Weighting: 12.6

Quality criterion - Name: AC4 Social Value / Weighting: 10.5

Cost criterion - Name: AC5 Total Cost / Weighting: 30

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

Option to extend for a further two 1 year periods.

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.2.14) Additional information

Option to extend for a further two 1 year periods.

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: [2024/S 000-036374](#)

IV.2.9) Information about termination of call for competition in the form of a prior information notice

The contracting authority will not award any further contracts based on the above prior information notice

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

1

Title

ID 5385517 DfE InterTrade Ireland - Funding Advisory Programme for Established SMEs
Phase Four

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

11 February 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 2

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: 2

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

GRANT THORNTON NI LLP

12 to 15 Donegall Square West

Belfast

BT16JH

Email

aidan.gibney@ie.gt.com

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

Internet address

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

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: £490,625

Total value of the contract/lot: £490,625

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Contract Monitoring. The successful Supplier's performance on the contract will be regularly monitored in line with the tender. documentation. Supplier's not delivering on contract requirements is a serious matter. It means the public purse is not getting what it is paying for. If a Supplier 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 CPD 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 Unsatisfactory Performance and. the contract may be terminated. The issue of a Notice of Unsatisfactory Performance can result in the Supplier 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 three years from the date of issue.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The UK does not have any such bodies with responsibility for appeal/mediation procedures. Instead; any challenges are dealt with by the High Court, Commercial Division, to which proceedings may be issued regarding alleged breaches of the PCR 2015 as amended.

UK

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

CPD complied with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and incorporated a. standstill period (i.e. a minimum of 10 calendar days) at the point information on the award of contract was communicated to tenderers.. That notification provided full information on the award decision. This provided time for the unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the. award decision before the contract was entered into.