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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](mailto: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

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## **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.

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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: [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

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## **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](mailto: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

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## **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.