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Tender

## **ID 3336901 DfE ApprenticeshipsNI 2021 Programme (Apps21)**

Department for the Economy

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-005945

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-029eaa

Published 24 March 2021, 10:56am

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

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

Department for the Economy

Adelaide House, 39-49 Adelaide Street

BELFAST

BT2 8FD

#### **Contact**

SSDAdmin.CPDfinance-ni.gov.uk

#### **Email**

[SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **NUTS code**

UK - UNITED KINGDOM

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.economy-ni.gov.uk](http://www.economy-ni.gov.uk)

Buyer's address

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

**I.3) Communication**

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

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

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

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**

Economic and financial affairs

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## **Section II: Object**

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

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

ID 3336901 DfE ApprenticeshipsNI 2021 Programme (Apps21)

Reference number

ID 3336901

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

- 80000000 - Education and training services

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

Services

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

The Department for the Economy (DfE) is seeking Contractors to provide a new Apprenticeship contract (Apps21) to commence in August 2021. ApprenticeshipsNI 2021 provides Level 2 and Level 3 apprenticeship training provision for employed people who are contracted to work a minimum of 21 hours or more per week. The programme provides an opportunity to work towards completing an industry approved apprenticeship framework at Level 2 and/or Level 3 including a relevant competence based qualification, a knowledge based qualification where appropriate to the apprenticeship framework, employee rights and responsibilities modules and Essential Skills if required. For apprentices aged 16 – 24 years (young person), the Client funds 100 per cent of the cost of off-the-job training under the programme. For apprentices aged 25 years and over (adult) funding is paid at a rate of 50 per cent of the young person's rate for specific frameworks aligned to priority economic sectors.

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £122,100,000

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

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

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

- 80210000 - Technical and vocational secondary education services
- 80211000 - Technical secondary education services
- 80212000 - Vocational secondary education services
- 80310000 - Youth education services
- 80330000 - Safety education services
- 80340000 - Special education services
- 80500000 - Training services
- 80520000 - Training facilities
- 80521000 - Training programme services
- 80530000 - Vocational training services
- 80531000 - Industrial and technical training services
- 80531100 - Industrial training services
- 80531200 - Technical training services
- 80532000 - Management training services
- 80533000 - Computer-user familiarisation and training services
- 80533100 - Computer training services
- 80533200 - Computer courses
- 80540000 - Environmental training services
- 80550000 - Safety training services
- 80560000 - Health and first-aid training services
- 80561000 - Health training services
- 80570000 - Personal development training services

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

NUTS codes

- UKN0 - Northern Ireland

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

The Department for the Economy (DfE) is seeking Contractors to provide a new Apprenticeship contract (Apps21) to commence in August 2021. ApprenticeshipsNI 2021 provides Level 2 and Level 3 apprenticeship training provision for employed people who are contracted to work a minimum of 21 hours or more per week. The programme provides an opportunity to work towards completing an industry approved apprenticeship framework at Level 2 and/or Level 3 including a relevant competence based qualification, a knowledge based qualification where appropriate to the apprenticeship framework, employee rights and responsibilities modules and Essential Skills if required. For apprentices aged 16 – 24 years (young person), the Client funds 100 per cent of the cost of off-the-job training under the programme. For apprentices aged 25 years and over (adult) funding is paid at a rate of 50 per cent of the young person's rate for specific frameworks aligned to priority economic sectors.

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

Quality criterion - Name: AC1 Teaching and Learning / Weighting: 25

Quality criterion - Name: AC2 Staffing / Weighting: 25

Quality criterion - Name: AC3 Resource Access / Weighting: 15

Quality criterion - Name: AC4 Leadership and Management / Weighting: 25

Quality criterion - Name: AC5 Partnerships / Weighting: 10

Cost criterion - Name: N/A / Weighting: 0

#### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £122,100,000

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

Duration in months

24

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: Yes

Description of options

The Award of Contract is anticipated to be in July 2021. The Contract will commence on 1st August 2021 for an Initial Contract Period of two years, where two years pertains to the period of recruitment of participants to the programme. There will be a run-off period following the Initial Contract Period during which all Contract provisions, terms and conditions will continue to apply. This is to accommodate the participant training entitlements set out in the Apps21 Operational Requirements. There will be options to extend the Initial Contract Period for a further two periods of up to and including 12 months each.

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

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: Yes

Identification of the project

European Social Fund

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## **Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

### **III.1) Conditions for participation**

#### **III.1.3) Technical and professional ability**

List and brief description of selection criteria

SC1 Company Experience. SC2 Use of Sub-contractors. SC3 Qualification Requirements for Learning Delivery Personnel

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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.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

28 April 2021

Local time

3:00pm

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

English

#### **IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender**

Tender must be valid until: 27 July 2021

#### **IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders**

Date

28 April 2021

Local time

3:30pm

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.3) Additional information**

The Contractor's performance on the Contract will be regularly monitored. A Contractor 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 (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 Certificate of Unsatisfactory Performance and the Contract may be terminated. The issue of a Certificate of Unsatisfactory Performance may 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 up to three years. The Department for the Economy (the Client) will have its own procedures in place to monitor and review each Contractor's performance. The Client will use the outputs from these contract monitoring procedures to monitor and review the Contractor's performance.

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

The UK does not have any special review body with responsibility for appeal/mediation procedures in public procurement.

As above

Country

United Kingdom

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

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

CPD will comply with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended) and, where appropriate, will incorporate a standstill period (i.e. a minimum of 10 calendar days) at the point information on the award of contract is communicated to tenderers. That notification will provide full information on the award decision. This provides time for the unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the award decision before the contract is entered into.

