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Tender

DoJ NICTS - Provision of Legal Advisors for the Parole Commissioners Northern Ireland

Department of Justice

F21: Social and other specific services – public contracts

Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-006024

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04e484

Published 19 February 2025, 7:46pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Department of Justice

c/o CPD Clare House 303 Airport Road West

BELFAST

BT3 9ED

Email

justice.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.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

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 electronically via

<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

DoJ NICTS - Provision of Legal Advisors for the Parole Commissioners Northern Ireland

Reference number

ID 5487764

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79110000 - Legal advisory and representation services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The Parole Commissioners Northern Ireland (PCNI) requires the provision of legal services under the following headings and in accordance with the specification: a.) Judicial Review and other proceedings Accept instructions in relation to taking or defending judicial review and other proceedings specifically relating to the legislation governing the Life Sentences (Northern Ireland) Order 2001 and the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2008; attend to the filing of all pleadings and documents of record; provide attendance records of court proceedings; represent the PCNI at hearings of any application for leave and at any substantive hearings. Instruct Counsel as appropriate. Take all necessary steps up to and including the hearing of the matter and any appeal which thereafter may occur. Provide advice upon the outcome of cases within the required timescales. b.) Advice. Advise the Commissioners, as may be required, on their powers and duties, as defined in the Life Sentences (Northern Ireland) Order 2001 and the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2008, subordinate legislation made there under, other statutory provisions and the common law. Advise the Commissioners on any legal proceedings which they may initiate or to which they may be required to respond, to include consultations with Commissioners. Obtain the advice of Counsel on any aspect of the above if requested to do so by the Commissioners. The contract will run for a fixed period of 5 years from the date of commencement.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £550,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79111000 - Legal advisory services
- 79100000 - Legal services
- 79140000 - Legal advisory and information services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN0 - Northern Ireland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Parole Commissioners Northern Ireland (PCNI) requires the provision of legal services under the following headings and in accordance with the specification: a.) Judicial Review and other proceedings Accept instructions in relation to taking or defending judicial review and other proceedings specifically relating to the legislation governing the Life Sentences (Northern Ireland) Order 2001 and the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2008; attend to the filing of all pleadings and documents of record; provide attendance records of court proceedings; represent the PCNI at hearings of any application for leave and at any substantive hearings. Instruct Counsel as appropriate. Take all necessary steps up to and including the hearing of the matter and any appeal which thereafter may occur. Provide advice upon the outcome of cases within the required timescales. b.) Advice. Advise the Commissioners, as may be required, on their powers and duties, as defined in the Life Sentences (Northern Ireland) Order 2001 and the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2008, subordinate legislation made there under, other statutory provisions and the common law. Advise the Commissioners on any legal proceedings which they may initiate or to which they may be required to respond, to include consultations with Commissioners. Obtain the advice of Counsel on any aspect of the above if requested to do so by the Commissioners. The contract will run for a fixed period of 5 years from the date of commencement.

II.2.6) Estimated value

Value excluding VAT: £550,000

II.2.7) Duration of the contract or the framework agreement

Duration in months

60

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

Contract Value. The figure indicated in above Sections represents an estimated contract value. This value reflects the potential scale of the contract and takes into account potential optional extension periods and the uptake of potential optional services as detailed in the tender documents. This figure does not however take into account the application of indexation. Neither CPD nor the Authority can provide any guarantee as to the level of business under this contract. The Contracting Authority does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender. Economic Operators remain responsible for all costs and expenses incurred by them or by any third party acting under instructions from the Economic Operator in connection with taking part in this procurement process regardless of whether such costs arise as a consequence, directly or indirectly of any amendments made to the procurement documents by the Contracting Authority at any time. No legally binding contract shall arise (and an Economic Operator shall have no legitimate expectation that a contract will be entered into) until such time as entry into the Contract has been confirmed by the Contracting Authority. Economic Operators should note that all dates, time periods and figures in relation to values and volumes specified in this notice and the procurement documents are approximate only and the Contracting Authority reserves the right to change any or all of them. .

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Form of procedure

Open procedure

IV.2) Administrative information

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

Date

20 March 2025

Local time

3:00pm

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

English

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Contract Monitoring. The successful contractor's performance on the contract will be regularly monitored in line with the tender documentation. 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 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 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 three years from the date of issue. . The Authority expressly reserves the rights: (I). not to award any contract as a result of the procurement process commenced by publication of this notice;. (II). to make whatever changes it may see fit to the content and structure of the tendering

Competition;. (III). to award (a) contract(s) in respect of any part(s) of the [services] covered by this notice; and. (IV). to award contract(s) in stages.. and in no circumstances will the Authority be liable for any costs incurred by candidates.

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).

N/A

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 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.