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Award

Specialist Analytical Service

Natural Resources Wales

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-006177

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-029f93

Published 26 March 2021, 9:16am

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Natural Resources Wales

Ty Cambria House, 29 Newport Road

Cardiff

CF24 0TP

Email

procurement.enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 3000653000

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKL - Wales

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0110

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Environment

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Specialist Analytical Service

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 71900000 - Laboratory services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

NRW Analytical Services (NRWAS) provides routine and non-routine analysis of samples for

EU Directive reporting, pollution incidents and investigative projects. Where NRW need exceeds NRWAS capability a requirement exists for the analysis of those samples to be sought from an alternative analytical service.

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: £200,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 71900000 - Laboratory services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKL - Wales

Main site or place of performance

NRW Analytical Services, 2nd Floor, Faraday Building, Swansea University, Singleton Campus, Swansea, SA2 8PP

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

NRW has a requirement to outsource samples for environmental analysis required by WFD, EQSD and Habitats directives, the samples are collected in a range of matrices; including freshwater, trade, treated sewage, saline, biota and sediment. Reporting limits are often required in low, or very low ranges. The relevant tests should also include the Watchlist Dets listed.

The analysis required may include, but is not limited to the following:

NRW Outsourced Tests

- Acid Herbicides

- Active Aluminium
- Alcohol and ketones
- Alkalinity
- Biocides GCMS
- Biota CSEMP Biota WW ug/kg
- Biota OCP CSEMP WW ug/kg
- Biota OTins Biota WW ug/kg
- Bromide and Bromate
- Chromium Hexavalent Dissolved Low
- Cyanide Free
- Cyanide Total
- Detergents Nonionic
- Di-2-(ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP)
- Di-2-Phthalate
- Formaldehyde
- Glyphosate and AMPA
- HBCDD WFD
- ICPMS NR Saline Dissolved
- ICPMS Routine Dissolved
- ICPMS Saline Dissolved
- ICPMS Saline Silver Dissolved
- ICPMS Total

- Iodide
- IR Oils
- IR Oils Saline
- Low Level Nonylphenols
- MST Marker Analysis
- N Total Saline
- Nonylphenols
- Nutrients Leach
- Nutrients Low Filtered
- Nutrients Saline
- Nutrients Saline Filtered
- Nutrients Saline Very Low Filt
- Nutrients Very Low
- Nutrients Very Low Filtered
- O Tins Low level WFD Saline
- OCP PCB
- OES Saline Barium Dissolved
- OES Saline Dissolved
- OES Dissolved Freshwater
- OES Total Freshwater
- Oestrogen
- ONP

- Otins
- OTins Low Level WFD
- P Total Low
- PAH
- Permanganate Value
- Pesticides WFD
- PFOS PFOA WFD
- Phenols
- Pyrethroids
- Pyrethroids Low Level
- Pyrethroids Saline Aqueous
- Quats
- Saline Chromium Hexavalent Dissolved
- Saline Cyanide – Total
- Saline Dissolved Organic Carbon
- Saline Nonylphenols
- Saline Nonylphenols Low Level
- Saline OCP PCB
- Saline ONP
- Saline Otins
- Saline PAH
- Sediment Anions Leach mg/l

- Sediment Mercury DW mg/kg
- Sediment Metals (Extended) ICPOES DW mg/kg
- Sediment Nutrients (KCL ext) DW mg/kg
- Sediment OCP ug/kg
- Sediment Orthophosphate as P DW mg/kg
- Sediment OTins DW ug/kg
- Sediment PAH ug/kg
- Sediment PCBs ug/kg
- Sediment pH & Conductivity Solids
- Sediment Sulphate - Acid Ext mg kg
- Sediment Total Organic Carbon DW%
- Sediment VOCs DW ug/kg
- Soil Hydrocarbon Screen C5-C44 (TPH) DW
- Soil Volatile Organic Compounds DW ug/kg
- Sulphide
- Suspended Solids Ash
- Total Organic Carbon
- Urocarbs

Watchlist Dets

- Metaflumizone
- Amoxicillin
- Ciprofloxacin

- Sulfamethoxazole
- Trimethoprim
- venlafaxine and O-desmethylvenlafaxine
- clotrimazole (azole compounds)
- fluconazole (azole compounds)
- imazalil (azole compounds)
- ipconazole (azole compounds)
- metconazole (azole compounds)
- miconazole (azole compounds)
- penconazole (azole compounds)
- prochloraz (azole compounds)
- tebuconazole (azole compounds)
- tetraconazole (azole compounds)
- dimoxystrobin
- famoxadone

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 IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

This arrangement is in accordance with Regulation 32(b)(ii) of the Public Contract Regulations (2015) which allows for the negotiated procedure without prior publication to be used for public works contracts, public supply contracts & public service contracts where (b) the works, supplies or services can be supplied only by a particular economic operator due to (ii) competition being absent for technical reasons.

Outsourced analysis at this scale has always been a restricted market. In 2016, when the last contract was put out to tender only one submission was received. NRW's incumbent supplier has been unable to accept any commercial samples since March 2020 due to Covid-19. This is set to continue for the near future. Following extensive market research, only one other supplier has the capability and capacity to undertake all our outsourcing requirements, with limited further subcontracting, and which could meet our requirement for typically low reporting limits. RPS Group are a key player in the analytical sector and were recommended by other suppliers contacted during the market research. RPS can meet NRW's general analytical requirements, logistics for delivery and reporting of results.

NRW's monitoring programme, which has already suffered delays due to the ongoing impact of the pandemic is set to restart in April this year. A significant proportion of the monitoring programme requires outsourcing. A contract is therefore required at short notice to meet the organisations requirement and for NRW to fulfil its statutory obligations. By awarding this short-term contract to RPS, the market will have been given time to recover and analytical capacity may be at close to normal levels across the sector; allowing a competitive tender process in 2022.

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract/concession

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

25 March 2021

V.2.2) Information about tenders

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

RPS

2 Callaghan Square

Cardiff

CF105AZ

Telephone

+44 7748180881

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKL22 - Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £200,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

(WA Ref:109278)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court

Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Telephone

+44 2079477501

Country

United Kingdom