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Planning

Launcher and sight for the Attenuating Energy Projectile (AEP)

Home Office

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-006577

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-03aeaf

Published 7 March 2023, 12:47pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Home Office

London

Email

leanne.bryant@homeoffice.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office>

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Public order and safety

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Launcher and sight for the Attenuating Energy Projectile (AEP)

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 35300000 - Weapons, ammunition and associated parts

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

The Authorities seek to determine market potential and consider market views on the requirements with a view to ensure such views are considered for any potential procurement that the Authorities may wish to launch.

No information contained in this RFI, or in any communication made between the Authorities and any Potential Provider in connection with this RFI, shall be relied upon as constituting a contract, agreement, or representation that any procurement or contract may result from

this RFI. Under no circumstances shall the Authorities incur any liability in respect of this RFI or any supporting documentation.

The Authorities will not reimburse any costs incurred by Potential Providers in connection with preparation and submission of their responses to this RFI.

Police in the UK currently use the Attenuating Energy Projectile (AEP), in conjunction with a launcher and sight, as a Less Lethal Weapon (LLW) for threats in the approximate range of up to 40 m. These threats can be divided into two operational scenarios:

- Armed officers dealing with a violent individual use the system as a Less Lethal option to minimise recourse to lethal force. This is the most common usage across the UK.
- During serious public disorder it is a tactical option for Public Order Commanders where there is a serious risk of loss of life or serious injury occurring.

In both cases the system enables a targeted use of force against an identified individual.

‘AEP System’ is the term for the weapon system that consists of the Attenuating Energy Projectile round fired from the L104A2 Baton Gun with an L18A1/A2 sight. AEP is actually the name of the round but has become the de facto title for the whole system. This system has been in use for over 15 years and has proved to be an effective less lethal tactical option for officers with no reported deaths directly attributed to its use.

The AEP round will continue to be an option available for UK policing. This request for information seeks details of alternative launchers (including a suitable sighting system) for use with AEP.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 35310000 - Miscellaneous weapons

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Contracting Authority is issuing this Prior Information Notice (PIN) as a Request for Information (RFI) to gather market intelligence/information, to gain a better understanding of the capacity and appetite of the market.

It is important to note that this PIN/RFI is not a call for competition and as such potential providers will need to express an interest in any future tender opportunity once a contract notice is published in Find a Tender Service and on Contracts Finder.

It should be noted that this PIN/RFI invites individuals and organisations to express an interest in this RFI exercise only, and it is NOT a pre-qualification questionnaire, and is NOT part of any pre-qualification or selection process.

To request access to the RFI document please email CollaborativeProcurement@homeoffice.gov.uk and request the RFI document related to Launcher and sight for the Attenuating Energy Projectile (AEP). The document will then be sent for completion and should be returned to the same email address before the deadline of 17th April

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

1 September 2023

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No