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Tender

## **ID 5448223 - DoF - Provision of CHECK Services**

Department of Finance DoF

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-007008

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04e763

Published 21 February 2025, 4:38pm

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

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

Department of Finance DoF

Craigantlet Buildings, Stoney Road

BELFAST

BT4 3SX

#### **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.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 to the above-mentioned address

**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 5448223 - DoF - Provision of CHECK Services

Reference number

ID 5448223

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

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

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

Services

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

The Department of Finance, for itself and on behalf of other public sector organisations in Northern Ireland, is establishing a Contract with suitable Supplier for the provision of CHECK Services on a Call-Off basis as defined within this Specification. A list of all participating Bodies (Buyer(s)) who can call-Off this Contract can be found in the Specification Document at Annex A. This is a Call- Off Contract for the Provision of CHECK Services. The Contract will be for an initial period of 2 years with options to extend for two further periods of two years each. The Provision of CHECK Services Call-Off Contract services required include, but are not limited to, the following, the provision of CHECK penetration testing services and providing independent verification for Services, Systems and Applications supporting the Buyer(s) business operations on a Call-Off Contract basis. For further details as to the requirements please refer to the document entitled ID 5448223 – Specification.

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

Value excluding VAT: £8,200,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

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

- 72200000 - Software programming and consultancy services
- 72590000 - Computer-related professional services
- 72800000 - Computer audit and testing services
- 72810000 - Computer audit services

- 72820000 - Computer testing services
- 72700000 - Computer network services

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

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

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

The Department of Finance, for itself and on behalf of other public sector organisations in Northern Ireland, is establishing a Contract with suitable Supplier for the provision of CHECK Services on a Call-Off basis as defined within this Specification. A list of all participating Bodies (Buyer(s)) who can call-Off this Contract can be found in the Specification Document at Annex A. This is a Call- Off Contract for the Provision of CHECK Services. The Contract will be for an initial period of 2 years with options to extend for two further periods of two years each. The Provision of CHECK Services Call-Off Contract services required include, but are not limited to, the following, the provision of CHECK penetration testing services and providing independent verification for Services, Systems and Applications supporting the Buyer(s) business operations on a Call-Off Contract basis. For further details as to the requirements please refer to the document entitled ID 5448223 – Specification.

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

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

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

Value excluding VAT: £8,200,000

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

Duration in months

24

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

This Contract is for an initial period of 2 years with 2 further optional extension periods of up to 2 years each

#### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

This Contract is for an initial period of 2 years with 2 further optional extension periods of up to 2 years each

#### **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**

The figure indicated in Section II 1.5 represents the maximum contract value. This value reflects the potential scale of the Contract and takes into account potential optional extension periods as detailed in the tender documents. However, as this is demand driven there is no guarantee to the level of work. The estimated contract value is an estimated range between £5m and £8.2m which will be determined by the usage off the contract. This figure does not however take into account the application of indexation. This is a Contract for the provision of Check Services on a Call-Off basis. For a list of participating bodies whom may avail of this Contract, please refer to Annex A of the Specification Document. . 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.

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

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

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

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

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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

27 March 2025

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: 25 June 2025

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

Date

27 March 2025

Local time

3:30pm

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

This is a recurrent procurement: Yes

Estimated timing for further notices to be published: This contract will potentially be due to be re-procured after the initial contract period and/or following any extensions

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

Contract monitoring: the successful contractor's performance on the contract will be regularly monitored. 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 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, this may be considered grounds for termination of the contract at your expense as provided for in the Conditions of Contract. In lieu of termination, CPD may issue a Notice of Written Warning or a Notice of Unsatisfactory Performance. A supplier in receipt of multiple Notices of Written Warning or a Notice of Unsatisfactory Performance may, in accordance with The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended), be excluded from future public procurement competitions for a period of. up to three years.. . "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.

Belfast

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.