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Award

Priority Habitat Management Pilot

Welsh Government

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-007988

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0325ce

Published 24 March 2022, 12:19pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Welsh Government

Corporate Procurement Services, Cathays Park

Cardiff

CF10 3NQ

Contact

Kate Smith

Email

kate.smith@gov.wales

Telephone

+44 3000257095

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKL - Wales

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://wales.gov>

Buyer's address

https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0007

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

Priority Habitat Management Pilot

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Welsh Government have commissioned a project to deliver and manage an environmental land-management based pilot research project. The pilot is targeted at specific grassland priority grassland habitat types that are under threat. These are listed as 'of principal importance to Wales' at Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016: Unimproved Lowland Neutral Grassland. The aim of the pilot is to bring this priority grassland habitat into optimum condition over the next five years.

The pilot will be utilising newly-designed outcome based methodology to assess habitat condition in ecological terms and reward participants accordingly (Results-based Agricultural Payment Scheme (RBAPS)). This methodology and newly developed technical assessment process has been specifically designed and developed by RSK ADAS Ltd. This novel outcome based methodology approach is different to current conventional land-management schemes that pay farmers to deliver specific prescriptions on an income forgone principle.

The outcome of the project is to support the Section 6 of the Environment Act (public authorities' duty to maintain & enhance biodiversity & resilience of ecosystems) & inform development of our post-Brexit farming support mechanism: Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS), by Land Management Reform Unit. One of the key actions proposed in the new SFS is support for management of priority habitats, and this pilot project can provide a baseline mechanism for delivery of that action. The results will also make a contribution to support the Programme for Government "creating a new system of farm support that will maximize the protected power of nature through farming".

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: £233,939

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKL - Wales

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Welsh Government have commissioned a project to deliver and manage an environmental land-management based pilot research project. The pilot is targeted at specific grassland priority grassland habitat types that are under threat. The aim of the pilot is to bring this priority grassland habitat into optimum condition over the next five years.

The pilot will be utilising newly-designed outcome based methodology to assess habitat condition in ecological terms and reward participants accordingly (Results-based Agricultural Payment Scheme (RBAPS)) This methodology and newly developed technical assessment process has been specifically designed and developed by RSK ADAS Ltd.

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 contract has been awarded without prior publication in the FTS / OJEU as it can be met compliantly by relying on Regulation 32(2)(b)(iii) of the Public Contract Regulations 2015:

RSK ADAS holds the exclusive rights of the unique methodology developed specifically for Welsh conditions as well as holding the intellectual property rights of the complex calculations to work the methodology. No reasonable alternative or substitute exists for this, as it is an outcome-based technical methodology which incorporates

comprehensive and expert knowledge of the project area and local networks.

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

4 March 2022

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

RSK ADAS Limited

Spring Lodge, 172 Chester Road, Helsby

Frodsham

WA60AR

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £233,939

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

(WA Ref:119849)

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