

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/008082-2024>

Tender

## **Multi-Supplier Framework Agreement for Ground Investigation Works**

Transport Scotland

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-008082

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-044844

Published 13 March 2024, 4:26pm

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

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

Transport Scotland

2nd Floor, George House, 36 North Hanover Street

Glasgow

G1 2AD

#### **Contact**

John Docherty

#### **Email**

[john.docherty@transport.gov.scot](mailto:john.docherty@transport.gov.scot)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1412727100

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKM82 - Glasgow City

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://www.transport.gov.scot>

Buyer's address

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00099](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00099)

**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

[www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk](http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk)

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

[www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk](http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk)

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

National or federal Agency/Office

**I.5) Main activity**

Other activity

Transport

---

## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Multi-Supplier Framework Agreement for Ground Investigation Works

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

- 45111250 - Ground investigation work

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

Works

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

Transport Scotland, on behalf of the Scottish Ministers, has identified the need for specialist Ground Investigation (GI) works to support the delivery of infrastructure projects.

The procurement comprises the establishment of a Multi-supplier Framework Agreement (MSFA) with a number of ground investigation contractors to carry out and report on GI works of varying scope, complexity and value in connection with trunk road and other transport infrastructure schemes promoted by the Scottish Ministers through Transport Scotland. Once the MSFA is concluded, individual GI contracts can be called off by mini-competition or other procedures in accordance with the Agreement.

The MSFA is divided into 2 Lots by estimated value of the individual GI call-off contracts.

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

Value excluding VAT: £45,000,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Tenders may be submitted for all lots

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.1) Title**

## Multi-Supplier Framework Agreement for Ground Investigation Works - Lot 1 - less than GBP 500,000

Lot No

1

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

- 45111250 - Ground investigation work
- 45120000 - Test drilling and boring work
- 45121000 - Test drilling work
- 45122000 - Test boring work
- 71351500 - Ground investigation services

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

NUTS codes

- UKM - Scotland

Main site or place of performance

Sites across Scotland predominantly in connection with the Trunk Road Network upgrading and maintenance schemes.

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

Transport Scotland is an agency of the Scottish Government and contracts in the name of and on behalf of the Scottish Ministers. Transport Scotland has identified the requirement to appoint a suitably experienced Framework Contractors to carry out GI works to support the development and delivery of trunk road and other transport infrastructure schemes throughout Scotland.

The Framework Contractors will be procured through a Restricted procedure, in accordance with the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015. Transport Scotland will manage the proposed procurement process for the Multi-Supplier Framework Agreement for Ground Investigation Works on behalf of the Scottish Ministers. In the event of a Framework Agreement being concluded, the Framework Agreement will be entered into between the Scottish Ministers and the successful tenderers.

This is a two stage procedure, comprising a prequalification stage and a tender stage.

Section II.2.9 of this Contract Notice describes the criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates. Detailed information regarding the award process and award criteria for the tender phase will be supplied to Economic Operators who are invited to tender.

The intended Conditions of Contract are likely to be Infrastructure Conditions of Contract (ICC).

To be considered for the prequalification stage, Economic Operators are required to complete and submit a Single Procurement Document (SPD) in accordance with this Contract Notice and the Supplementary Information Document which can be accessed via the Additional Documents located within the Additional Notice Options, this can be downloaded via the Public Contracts Scotland portal ([www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk](http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk)).

Economic Operators shall be evaluated in accordance with the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015, on the basis of the information they have provided within the SPD.

It is intended that the Framework Agreement will last four years.

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

Quality criterion - Name: Key Personnel; Resourcing; Managing Individual Call-Off Contracts; Provision of Information and Deliverables; Community Benefits; Fair Work First / Weighting: 60

Cost criterion - Name: Cost / Weighting: 40

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

Value excluding VAT: £5,000,000

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

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

No

#### **II.2.9) Information about the limits on the number of candidates to be invited**

Envisaged number of candidates: 8

Objective criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates:

It is intended that eight Economic Operators be taken forward to tender participation stage. These Economic Operators shall be those who have:

(i) submitted a compliant submission, comprising the completed SPD (ii) satisfied the relevant selection criteria under the exclusion grounds

(iii) (a) Minimum Standards of Eligibility - provided evidence of working on specified types of projects; and

(b) Technical or Professional Ability - provided evidence demonstrating an acceptable level of technical or professional activity; and

(c) Educational & Professional Qualifications - possess the necessary educational and professional qualifications to perform the

requirement

(iv) has in place quality, environmental and health and safety management systems;

(v) satisfied minimum standards of economic and financial standing

(vi) achieved the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth highest combined weighted scores in respect of technical or professional ability calculated in accordance with the responses to Statements (b),(c), (d) and (e) (refer to Section III.1.3).

However, if an Economic Operator has not submitted a compliant submission as described in (i) above or failed in respect of either (ii), (iii),(iv) or (v) above, then that Economic Operator shall be excluded from the ranking of scores described in (vi) as above.

In terms of Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015, there will be a requirement on Economic Operators to provide proof of economic and financial standing, and of technical and professional ability prior to proceeding to the next stage of competition and award. The tender documents will contain specific provisions requiring tenders to inform Transport Scotland of any changes to their economic and financial standing or technical and professional ability during the procurement process.

Transport Scotland reserves the right to undertake further verification to ensure continuing compliance with the selection criteria at any time prior to proceeding to the next stage of the competition and contract award, including during any standstill period. If means of proof does not satisfy Transport Scotland's selection criteria and/or if an Economic Operator no longer meets the requirements set out in the tender documents, it shall be excluded from this procurement competition. If this follows tender evaluation, including during any standstill period, the next ranked most economically advantageous tenderer shall be requested to provide proof of economic and financial standing, and technical and professional ability with a view to contract award.

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

Variants will be accepted: No

#### **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

#### **II.2.14) Additional information**

Economic Operators who initially meet but then subsequently fail to meet the criteria, prior to contract award, shall be excluded.

Economic Operators may be excluded from this competition if they are in any of the situations referred to in regulation 58 of the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015.

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

Multi-supplier Framework Agreement for Ground Investigation Works - Lot 2 - greater than GBP 500,000

Lot No

2

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

- 45111250 - Ground investigation work
- 45120000 - Test drilling and boring work
- 45121000 - Test drilling work
- 45122000 - Test boring work
- 71351500 - Ground investigation services

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

NUTS codes

- UKM - Scotland

Main site or place of performance

Sites across Scotland, predominantly in connection with the Trunk Road Network upgrading and maintenance schemes.

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

Transport Scotland is an agency of the Scottish Government and contracts in the name of and on behalf of the Scottish Ministers. Transport Scotland has identified the requirement to appoint a suitably experienced Framework Contractors to carry out GI works to support the development and delivery of trunk road and other transport infrastructure schemes

throughout Scotland.

The Framework Contractors will be procured through a Restricted procedure, in accordance with the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015. Transport Scotland will manage the proposed procurement process for the Multi-Supplier Framework Agreement for Ground Investigation Works on behalf of the Scottish Ministers. In the event of a Framework Agreement being concluded, the Framework Agreement will be entered into between the Scottish Ministers and the successful tenderers.

This is a two stage procedure, comprising a prequalification stage and a tender stage. Section II.2.9 of this Contract Notice describes the criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates. Detailed information regarding the award process and award criteria for the tender phase will be supplied to Economic Operators who are invited to tender.

The intended Conditions of Contract are likely to be Infrastructure Conditions of Contract (ICC).

To be considered for the prequalification stage, Economic Operators are required to complete and submit a Single Procurement Document (SPD) in accordance with this Contract Notice and the Supplementary Information Document which can be accessed via the Additional Documents located within the Additional Notice Options, this can be downloaded via the Public Contracts Scotland portal ([www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk](http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk)).

Economic Operators shall be evaluated in accordance with the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015, on the basis of the information they have provided within the SPD.

It is intended that the Framework Agreement will last four years.

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

Quality criterion - Name: Key Personnel; Resourcing; Managing Individual Call-Off Contracts; Provision of Information and Deliverables; Community Benefits; Fair Work First / Weighting: 60

Cost criterion - Name: Cost / Weighting: 40

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

Value excluding VAT: £40,000,000

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

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

No

**II.2.9) Information about the limits on the number of candidates to be invited**

Envisaged number of candidates: 8

Objective criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates:

It is intended that eight Economic Operators be taken forward to tender participation stage. These Economic Operators shall be those who have:

(i) submitted a compliant submission, comprising the completed SPD (ii) satisfied the

relevant selection criteria under the exclusion grounds

(iii) (a) Minimum Standards of Eligibility - provided evidence of working on specified types of projects; and

(b) Technical or Professional Ability - provided evidence demonstrating an acceptable level of technical or professional activity; and

(c) Educational & Professional Qualifications - possess the necessary educational and professional qualifications to perform the

requirement

(iv) has in place quality, environmental and health and safety management systems;

(v) satisfied minimum standards of economic and financial standing

(vi) achieved the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth highest combined weighted scores in respect of technical or professional ability calculated in accordance with the responses to Statements (b),(c), (d) and (e) (refer to Section III.1.3).

However, if an Economic Operator has not submitted a compliant submission as described in (i) above or failed in respect of either (ii), (iii),(iv) or (v) above, then that Economic Operator shall be excluded from the ranking of scores described in (vi) as above.

In terms of Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015, there will be a requirement on Economic Operators to provide proof of economic and financial standing, and of technical and professional ability prior to proceeding to the next stage of competition and award. The tender documents will contain specific provisions requiring tenders to inform Transport Scotland of any changes to their economic and financial standing or technical and professional ability during the procurement process.

Transport Scotland reserves the right to undertake further verification to ensure continuing compliance with the selection criteria at any time prior to proceeding to the next stage of the competition and contract award, including during any standstill period. If means of proof does not satisfy Transport Scotland's selection criteria and/or if an Economic Operator no longer meets the requirements set out in the tender documents, it shall be excluded from this procurement competition. If this follows tender evaluation, including during any standstill period, the next ranked most economically advantageous tenderer shall be requested to provide proof of economic and financial standing, and technical and professional ability with a view to contract award.

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

Variants will be accepted: No

**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

**II.2.14) Additional information**

Economic operators who initially meet but then subsequently fail to meet the criteria, prior to contract award, shall be excluded.

---

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

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

#### **III.1.1) Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers**

List and brief description of conditions

The relevant selection criteria will be included in the SPD Scotland module.

#### **III.1.2) Economic and financial standing**

List and brief description of selection criteria

The relevant selection criteria will be included in the SPD Scotland module

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

List and brief description of selection criteria

The relevant selection criteria will be included in the SPD Scotland module

### **III.2) Conditions related to the contract**

#### **III.2.2) Contract performance conditions**

It is the Employer's policy to measure the performance of the Framework Contractors on a regular basis.

In the event that the Framework Contractors performance falls below a satisfactory level, the Framework Contractors will be invited to determine a means of rectifying the situation. Repeated or continual service failures may result in suspension or termination of the contract.

---

## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Restricted procedure

#### **IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system**

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with several operators

Envisaged maximum number of participants to the framework agreement: 10

In the case of framework agreements, provide justification for any duration exceeding 4 years:

n/a

#### **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

18 April 2024

Local time

12:00pm

#### **IV.2.3) Estimated date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates**

27 May 2024

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

English

---

## Section VI. Complementary information

### VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### VI.3) Additional information

Each Economic Operator shall be invited to submit a Tender on the same contract terms. To be considered for this procurement competition, Economic Operators should complete an SPD through the Public Contract Scotland portal and submit the completed SPD.

As set out in accordance with section II.2.9 above, an Economic Operator who no longer has the requisite objective criteria as required under the Contract Notice and SPD shall be excluded from this procurement competition.

Please note there are minimum requirements concerning Cyber Security for this contract. If successful, it is expected that the Economic Operators will commit to holding a valid Cyber Essentials certificate, if not already held.

Tenderers will be asked to confirm that they will pay staff based in the UK that are involved in the delivery of this Framework Agreement at least the real Living Wage.

The Framework Agreement value is anticipated to be in the range of GBP 35-45m.

Please refer to the Supplementary Information Document for full additional information.

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the Public Contracts Scotland Web Site at

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search\\_Switch.aspx?ID=752821](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=752821).

The buyer has indicated that it will accept electronic responses to this notice via the Postbox facility. A user guide is available at

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/sitehelp/help\\_guides.aspx](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/sitehelp/help_guides.aspx).

Suppliers are advised to allow adequate time for uploading documents and to dispatch the electronic response well in advance of the closing time to avoid any last minute problems.

A sub-contract clause has been included in this contract. For more information see:

<http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/info/InfoCentre.aspx?ID=2363>

Community benefits are included in this requirement. For more information see:

<https://www.gov.scot/policies/public-sector-procurement/community-benefits-in->

[procurement/](#)

A summary of the expected community benefits has been provided as follows:

For further details on Transport Scotland's approach to Community Benefits in Procurement please refer to: <https://www.transport.gov.scot/about/procurement>

(SC Ref:752821)

Download the ESPD document here:

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/ESPD/ESPD\\_Download.aspx?id=752821](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/ESPD/ESPD_Download.aspx?id=752821)

## **VI.4) Procedures for review**

### **VI.4.1) Review body**

Sheriff Clerk's Office

PO Box 23, 1 Carlton, Place

Glasgow

G5 9DA

Email

[glasgow@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:glasgow@scotcourts.gov.uk)

Country

United Kingdom