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Contract

Apprenticeships Commissioning Programme Wales Framework Agreement

Welsh Government

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-008191

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-02a770

Published 19 April 2021, 11:55am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Welsh Government

Corporate Procurement Services, Cathays Park

Cardiff

CF10 3NQ

Email

CPSProcurementAdvice@gov.wales

Telephone

+44 3000623300

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKL - Wales

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://wales.gov.uk/?skip=1&lang=en>

Buyer's address

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

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Apprenticeships Commissioning Programme Wales Framework Agreement

Reference number

F022/2020/2021

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80000000 - Education and training services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Through work-based learning the Apprenticeship Programme will deliver to individuals the skills necessary to embark on successful careers and for employers the relevant skilled people to meet the current and future needs of their businesses and the Welsh economy. Commencing on 1 August 2021 the Apprenticeship framework will run for 4 years until 31 July 2025 (with the option of an extension of up to two years until 31 July 2027).

The Framework will be procured under the light touch regime, implemented through regulations 74 - 77 as applied to Schedule 3 services of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR 2015) using a quasi-open procedure.

Please be advised that costs are fixed as set out in the Programme Specification, as such, there is no Commercial evaluation element to this tender.

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: £1,050,000,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 80500000 - Training services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKL - Wales

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The purpose of the Apprenticeships Programme is to support people in Wales through high quality learning, in order to provide employers with the relevant skilled people to meet the current and future needs of the Welsh economy.

Apprenticeships offer employed learners the opportunity to pursue a Foundation Apprenticeship, Apprenticeship, or Higher Apprenticeship framework. Degree Apprenticeships are excluded from this procurement.

Each framework specifies the learning activities, including, qualifications covering occupational competencies, the relevant technical knowledge, Essential Skills Wales and Employment Rights and Responsibilities (ERR).

The Client is committed to aligning the Apprenticeship Programme to the needs of the Welsh economy as outlined in its policy and action plan published in February 2017 - Aligning the Apprenticeship model to the needs of the Welsh economy 2017. The focus is on aligning and raising the level of the skills market designed to meet employer needs with a system that is responsive to industry changes, particularly in the sectors that drive growth and prosperity. The policy reflects the step change towards higher level technical and professional skills, promoting efficiency and portability within our priority sectors.

The Welsh Government is of the view that the option to extend the framework beyond four years is likely to be desirable. Individual participants may be on a vocational Apprenticeship programme for up to four years. In the event the maximum term of the framework mirrors the maximum duration of a vocational Apprenticeship programme, this is likely to result in many apprentices having their learning disrupted as they may be obliged to transfer from an unsuccessful legacy provider to a successful bidder when a future replacement framework is procured. Adopting a 4 year fixed term framework agreement with the ability to extend up to a maximum of 6 years should provide Welsh Government with the opportunity to limit the number of displaced apprentices that may arise if the procurement process had to be repeated more regularly.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: technical / Weighting: 100

Price - Weighting: 0

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

Throughout the duration of the Agreement or Programme Commission, the Client may seek to continue to improve the Apprenticeship Programme and to sharpen its focus. To this end, a number of flexibilities and options (including but not limited to varying or introducing new Services and pilot schemes) have been incorporated into the Agreement and the Programme Specification. Priorities will be reviewed regularly by the Client and Welsh Government Officials and may be revised. This will inform future allocations. Changes to the Programme Specification will be implemented in accordance with the terms of the Agreement as per sections 7.4, 26, 30 of the Invitation To Tender; B.10, B.16-B.26 of the Programme Specification and 4.2 of the Framework Agreement

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: Yes

Identification of the project

Apprenticeships Wales is part funded by European Social Fund (ESF) money, administered under the European Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014-2020.

II.2.14) Additional information

The value range is anticipated to be Min GBP 400m to Max GBP 1.05 billion over the term of the agreement, further details are included in the tender documents.

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.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2020/S 162-395340](#)

Section V. Award of contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

22 March 2021

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 22

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 9

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 22

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 22

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Gower College Swansea

Tycoch Road, Sketty

Swansea

SA29EB

Telephone

+44 1792284121

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKL14 - South West Wales

The contractor is an SME

No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Cardiff & Vale College

City Centre Campus, Dumballs Road, Cardiff Bay

Cardiff

CF105BF

Telephone

+44 2920250350

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKL22 - Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan

The contractor is an SME

No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

NEATH PORT TALBOT COLLEGE

NEATH PORT TALBOT COLLEGE, DWR-Y-FELIN RD

NEATH

SA107RF

Telephone

+44 0000000000

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKL17 - Bridgend and Neath Port Talbot

The contractor is an SME

No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Pembrokeshire College

Merlins Bridge

Haverfordwest

SA611SZ

Telephone

+44 1437753272

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKL14 - South West Wales

The contractor is an SME

No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Coleg Cambria

Grove Park Road

Wrexham

LL127AB

Telephone

+44 1244831531

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Grwp Llandrillo Menai

Grwp Llandrillo Menai, LLANDUDNO ROAD Rhos on Sea

COLWYN BAY

LL284HZ

Telephone

+44 1492546666

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKL1 - West Wales and the Valleys

The contractor is an SME

No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Cambrian Training Company

Ty Cambrian, Unit 10 Offa's Dyke Business Park

Welshpool

SY218JF

Telephone

+44 1938555893

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

ACT Training

Ocean Park House, East Tyndall Street

Cardiff

CF245ET

Telephone

+44 0000000000

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKL22 - Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan

The contractor is an SME

No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Educ8 Training Group Ltd

Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach

Hengoed

CF827EH

Telephone

+44 1443749000

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

ITEC Training Solutions

ITEC House, Penarth Road

Cardiff

Cf118tt

Telephone

+44 2920663800

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKL - Wales

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £1,050,000,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £1,050,000,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

(WA Ref:109411)

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