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Opportunity

Integrated Landscape Evidence and Advice Framework Agreement

Natural Resources Wales

F02: Contract notice

Notice reference: 2024/S 000-009955

Published: 27 March 2024, 9:33am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Natural Resources Wales

Ty Cambria House, 29 Newport Road

Cardiff

CF24 0TP

Contact

Naomi Hammond

Email

naomi.hammond@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 3000653574

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKL - Wales

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0110

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://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk>

Electronic communication requires the use of tools and devices that are not generally available. Unrestricted and full direct access to these tools and devices is possible, free of charge, at

<https://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk/home.html>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Environment

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Integrated Landscape Evidence and Advice Framework Agreement

Reference number

itt_109645 (project ref: 55939)

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 90712000 - Environmental planning

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

NRW is looking to appoint suitably qualified and experienced landscape consultants through the award of a framework agreement in order to support our statutory and advisory roles in the planning application and development plan processes in Wales and in other consenting regimes and environmental assessment processes.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £300,000

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

Development Planning Advice Consultancy Services

Lot No

1

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 90713000 - Environmental issues consultancy services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKL - Wales

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Provision of specialist advice on the potential landscape and visual impacts from development proposals to inform NRW's responses to planning application and development plan consultations. This will include:

- Providing landscape planning advice to be used in NRW's responses to planning application consultations, and Development Consent Order (under Planning Act 2008) consultations (including statutory and discretionary pre-application advice). This will include reviewing seascape, landscape and visual impact assessments and Environmental Statements submitted by applicants.
- Providing landscape planning advice to be used in NRW responses to scoping consultations submitted under The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) 2017 Regulations and The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) 2017 Regulations.
- Providing expert witness advice at Public Inquiries (including those in relation to NSIPs, DNSs, Infrastructure Consents) and provide advice to be used as part in written representations made by NRW at inquiries, hearings, or examinations in relation to a proposed scheme.

- Providing advice to be used in NRW's responses to development plan consultations.
- Providing expert advice to be used by NRW in written representations at an Examination of a development plan and provide expert advice to development plan Hearings.
- Providing advice to be used by NRW when advising on masterplans, Supplementary Planning Guidance, landscape management plans and environmental strategies/plans.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Technical response / Weighting: 60

Price - Weighting: 40

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.2.10) 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) Description

II.2.1) Title

Advisory and Consenting Casework consultancy services

Lot No

2

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 90712200 - Forest conservation strategy planning
- 90711400 - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) services other than for construction
- 80540000 - Environmental training services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKL - Wales

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Providing advice on the potential landscape and visual impacts on:

- Woodland Creation proposals to inform our determination of woodland creation applications
- proposals contained within draft Forest Resource Plans
- tree-felling proposals to inform our determination of tree-felling licences

Developing procedural and technical guidance and provide training on landscape and visual amenity and impact considerations in the development and assessment of, and when considering

- woodland creation schemes. This will include guidance aimed at NRW staff responsible for assessing woodland creation proposals, and guidance published by NRW (e.g. on its website) to inform scheme proponents.
- Forest Resource Plans
- tree-felling licence applications, and guidance for those considering making an application
- Providing expert witness advice at appeal hearings, and advice to inform NRW's submission as part of written representations to appeals in respect of
- Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) (Wales) Regulations 2017 related

consultations to also include expert advice to inform NRW's submissions to infraction casework

- tree-felling licences

Providing advice to be used in NRW responses to screening and scoping consultations and when reviewing Environmental Statements submitted under:

- EIA Agriculture Wales Regulations 2017.

Develop procedural and technical guidance, and provide training, on landscape and visual impact considerations in the context of NRW's landscape advice under EIA Agriculture Wales Regulations 2017.

Providing landscape and visual impact advice to inform our advice to screening and scoping consultations submitted to us as consultees under the Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) (England and Wales) 1999 Regulations.

Reviewing and providing advice on landscape and visual impact assessments submitted to us as part of Environmental Statements as consultees under the Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) (England and Wales) 1999 Regulations.

Developing procedural and technical guidance, and providing training, on:

- how and when to consider landscape and visual impacts; and

- how to fulfil NRW's various roles.

under the Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) (England and Wales) 1999 Regulations.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Technical response / Weighting: 60

Price - Weighting: 40

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

Duration in months

This contract is subject to renewal

No

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) Description

II.2.1) Title

Landscape and Visual Impact Training & Guidance

Lot No

3

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 80540000 - Environmental training services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKL - Wales

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Developing procedural and technical advice and guidance for NRW staff, and aimed at planning authority staff and developers on landscape and visual impact considerations that relate to:

- the assessment of development proposals, and
- the siting, layout and design of development proposals.

Further, developing and delivering training relating to landscape and visual impact considerations pertinent to the planning system and to different development types aimed at NRW staff and planning authority staff who are involved in:

- considering planning applications
- assessing undertaking development plans.

Training will be provided predominantly via MS Teams remotely. The provision of face-to-face training will only be in agreement with the contract manager prior to delivery and subject to cost and demand. The contractor(s) may also be asked by NRW to provide a risk assessment prior to any face-to face training. Contractor(s) may be asked to provide, collect, and assess on-line and anonymous pre- and post-training feedback forms as agreed with NRW and may be required to provide a report post training delivery outlining:

- attendance
- effectiveness of both the training material and mediums
- potential learning opportunities
- future improvement opportunities of both the training material and training mediums
- any constraints including technical issues identified
- a register and assessment for evidence/pledge forms submitted
- findings based on feedback forms submitted

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Technical response / Weighting: 60

Price - Weighting: 40

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.2.10) 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

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions for participation

III.1.2) Economic and financial standing

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

III.1.3) Technical and professional ability

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

III.2) Conditions related to the contract

III.2.3) Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract

Obligation to indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to performing the contract

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open 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: 9

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

26 April 2024

Local time

11:00am

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

English

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

26 April 2024

Local time

12:00pm

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.3) Additional information

INSTRUCTIONS COMPLETING THE ITT

i) Suppliers should register on the eTendering portal

<https://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk>

ii) Once registered, suppliers must express their interest as follows

a) login to the eTendering portal

b) select ITT'

c) select 'ITTs Open To All Suppliers'

d) access the listing relating to the contract (itt_109645, NRW Integrated Landscape Evidence and Advice Framework Agreement) and view details

e) click on 'Express Interest' button in the 'Actions' box on the left-hand side of the page

iii) Once you have expressed interest, the ITT will move to 'My ITTs', where you can download and view documents and where you can construct your reply as instructed. You must then publish your reply using the publish button.

iv) For any support in submitting your expression of interest, please contact the eTendering helpdesk on 0800 0112470 or at help@bravosolution.co.uk.

The buyer considers that this contract is suitable for consortia.

Please note: suppliers are asked to submit a non-core Community Benefits response when they providing their tender; this response will not be evaluated but is required for the tender to be valid.

NOTE: The authority is using eTenderwales to carry out this procurement process. To obtain further information record your interest on Sell2Wales at

https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/search_switch.aspx?ID=140297

(WA Ref:140297)

The buyer considers that this contract is suitable for consortia.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court

Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

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+44 2079477501

Country

United Kingdom