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Tender

The Supply of Natural Gas and Associated Services

Suffolk County Council

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-009991

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03bcd

Published 5 April 2023, 3:08pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Suffolk County Council

Endeavour House, Russell Road

IPSWICH

IP1 2BX

Contact

Martin Jennings

Email

martin.jennings@suffolk.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 1473260450

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKH14 - Suffolk

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.suffolksourcing.uk

I.3) Communication

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

www.suffolksourcing.uk

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

Regional or local authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

The Supply of Natural Gas and Associated Services

Reference number

CD1283-2

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 09123000 - Natural gas
 - BA09 - Gas

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

We require a flexible risk managed natural gas contract for 2 years with the option to extend for up to a further two years, for the initial period 1.10.2023 to 30.9.2025. Operating as an aggregated portfolio of natural gas consumption for daily metered (DM), metered and non-daily metered meters (NDM) forming part of a combined portfolio. We will operate a rolling two year purchasing strategy for multiple customers, where gas will be purchased and sold on the traded wholesale energy market via OFGEM licenced suppliers. The portfolio may be split into purchasing in advance of year and purchasing within year. Natural gas is to be priced to the customers on a fixed cost basis for a fixed term period which will have been purchased in advance of delivery and may be greater than 1 year and as short as 1 month. The supplier will execute trades via a shared set strategy and customers will be aligned to a common contract start date.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £12,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 09123000 - Natural gas
 - BA09 - Gas

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

Suffolk and the East of England

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This procurement exercise is being carried out by Suffolk County Council and the resulting contract will be in Suffolk County Council's name. Suffolk County Council has appointed Vertas Group Ltd to undertake the tender evaluation and subsequent contract management as part of their duties to Suffolk County Council. Vertas is a limited company wholly owned by Suffolk County Council. The contract portfolio has around 500 sites with an annual consumption of 79 GWh.

II.2.5) Award criteria

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

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

Start date

1 October 2023

End date

30 September 2025

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

The contract may be extended for up to a further two (2) years giving a maximum end

date of 30th September 2027.

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

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

IV.1.6) Information about electronic auction

An electronic auction will be used

Additional information about electronic auction

The electronic auction shall take place week commencing 22nd May 2023 and shall be a transformational reverse auction following the assessment of the quality submissions.

Those companies who meet the tender and quality requirements shall be invited to participate in the e-auction and provided with training/user guides in advance of the event.

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

5 May 2023

Local time

12:00pm

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: 30 September 2023

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

5 May 2023

Local time

12:00pm

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: Yes

Estimated timing for further notices to be published: Estimated timing for further notices to be published: The Council will consider if to re-procure the contract in October 2024. If the contract is extended the consideration will be made in October 2025 and/or October 2026 if the decision is made to not extend additional notices will likely be published at these times

VI.2) Information about electronic workflows

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

VI.3) Additional information

The contract may be extended for up to a further two (2) years giving a maximum end date of 30th September 2027. In the event that the Council only receives one tender submission or following the Assessment of the Minimum Standards and/or the Technical Quality Evaluation only one acceptable Tenderer remains the Council may proceed to award without carrying out the eAuction event, so long as the Council is content with the prices submitted initially and are fully transparent and inline with market expectations. Suffolk County Council reserves the right to procure repeat requirements of a similar nature without a further call for competition pursuant to Regulation 32 of the public contracts Regulations 2015.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court

London

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

Suffolk County Council incorporates a minimum 10 calendar day standstill period from the point at which information on the award of contract is communicated to tenderers. This period allows unsuccessful tenderers to seek further debriefing from the contracting authority before the contract is entered into. If an appeal regarding the award of contract has not been successfully resolved: The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 as amended provide for aggrieved parties who have been harmed or at risk of harm by a breach of the rules, to take action in the High Court (England, Wales and Northern Ireland). Any such action must be brought promptly.