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Award

## **VCMA Projects - Fuel Poverty Awareness Training, Green Doctors Energy Matters and GEMS - Groundworks Energy Management Services.**

NORTHERN GAS NETWORKS LIMITED

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-010429

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-032f5b

Published 22 April 2022, 9:05am

### **Section I: Contracting authority/entity**

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

NORTHERN GAS NETWORKS LIMITED

1100 Century Way Thorpe Park

LEEDS

LS158TU

#### **Contact**

Rebecca Rowley

#### **Email**

[rrowley@northerngas.co.uk](mailto:rrowley@northerngas.co.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 7935077342

**Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKE42 - Leeds

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.northerngas.co.uk](http://www.northerngas.co.uk)

**I.6) Main activity**

Production, transport and distribution of gas and heat

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**Section II: Object**

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

**II.1.1) Title**

VCMA Projects - Fuel Poverty Awareness Training, Green Doctors Energy Matters and GEMS - Groundworks Energy Management Services.

**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**

An extension is required for all 3 projects, Fuel Poverty Awareness Training, Green Doctors Energy Matters and GEMS - Groundworks Energy Management Services.

Green Doctor - Fuel Poverty Training Course

The Green Doctor fuel poverty course is delivered both online & face to face. We have found that the scope has increased due to the ease of access from more distant regions

of our delivery areas.

The aim of the course is to train frontline workers from a wide variety of organisations who in some way support people in or at risk of falling into fuel poverty. Since November 2019 we have trained around 250 frontline key workers who have then potentially disseminated the knowledge learnt to on average 8-10 people each day as part of their role.

We have a diverse mix of people on the course from housing officers, debt advice workers, health professionals, social prescribers, engineers and community representatives. Many of these become 'energy champions'.

#### Green Doctor - Energy Matters

The Green Doctor service aims to reduce energy costs, increase energy-efficiency and improve health & wellbeing.

#### Groundwork's Energy Management Services (GEMS)

The GEMS scheme provides an energy management service to community/charitable organisations who are based in buildings that have poor thermal energy efficiency, high running costs and would benefit from support & advice on how to reduce their costs, increase efficiency & to implement an energy management system for future sustainability.

Further scope for this project includes offering this as a paid for service to small, medium & micro business enterprises which would enable us to become sustainable for future delivery & would benefit the wider community & local businesses.

#### **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: £132,150

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

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

NUTS codes

- UKC - North East (England)
- UKD - North West (England)

- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber
- UKF - East Midlands (England)
- UKG - West Midlands (England)
- UKH - East of England

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

An extension is required for all 3 projects, Fuel Poverty Awareness Training, Green Doctors Energy Matters and GEMS - Groundworks Energy Management Services. All 3 projects have gone really well in the first year and have generated a positive SROI.

The projects that have been submitted by Groundwork are unique in that nothing currently exists in the region in terms of these 3 specific project objectives. Green Doctors have no provision in the NE currently and this extension will enable Groundwork to extend their scope and reach of their projects. There is no other service provider who currently delivers a 1 day Fuel Poverty Awareness course and the Groundwork Energy Management Service project, is not offered by anyone else in Yorkshire. The Green Doctor Project is a partnership project with Northern Powergrid however, this is the first time it has been extended into the NE.

Groundwork have extensive reach into those customers living in fuel poverty and struggling with heat or eat decisions. This opens up opportunities to engage with those households in terms of energy switching, energy efficiency (small measures installation) and other associated services, such as PSR registrations and CO awareness. This is key and will reach both urban and rural communities. The FP Awareness course is delivered to front line workers who NGN can not reach. As a trusted intermediary this is something Groundwork delivers on our behalf. Stakeholder engagement throughout 2020 & 2021 told us that access to many of these services is becoming increasingly difficult (energy advice/small measures) and has been compounded by the pandemic. Green Doctors are well established in Yorkshire however, there is currently a gap in this service provision in the NE of our network which these projects will address.

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

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## **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:

Northern Gas Networks proposes to put in place an extension of VCMA Projects with Groundwork Yorkshire to deliver the following 3 projects - Fuel Poverty Awareness Training, Green Doctors Energy Matters, GEMS - Groundworks Energy Management Service. The projects that have been submitted by Groundwork are unique in that nothing else exists in the region in terms of these 3 specific project objectives. Green Doctors have no provision in the NE currently and this extension will enable Groundwork to extend their scope and reach of their projects.

There is no other service provider who currently delivers a 1 day Fuel Poverty Awareness course and the Groundwork Energy Management Service project, is not offered by anyone else in Yorkshire. The Green Doctor Project is a partnership project with Northern Powergrid however, this is the first time it has been extended into the NE. Groundwork have extensive reach into those customers living in fuel poverty and struggling with heat or eat decisions. This opens up opportunities to engage with those households in terms of energy switching, energy efficiency (small measures installation) and other associated services, such as PSR registrations and CO awareness. This is key and will reach both urban and rural communities. The FP Awareness course is delivered to front line workers who NGN can not reach. As a trusted intermediary this is something Groundwork delivers on our behalf.

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

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## **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**

22 April 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**

Groundwork Yorkshire Limited

Leeds

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber

Internet address

[www.northerngas.co.uk](http://www.northerngas.co.uk)

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

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

Northern Gas Networks

Leeds

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

[www.northerngasnetworks.co.uk](http://www.northerngasnetworks.co.uk)