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Award

Electric Cremator Purchase

Rushcliffe Borough Council

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-011082

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02b2bb

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Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Rushcliffe Borough Council

Rushcliffe Arena, Rugby Road

West Bridgford, Nottingham

NG2 7YG

Contact

Paul Williams

Email

pawilliams@melton.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKF - East Midlands (England)

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk>

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

Electric Cremator Purchase

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 42350000 - Cremators

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

Purchase of an electric cremator with maintenance and service

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: 795,000 EUR

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKF - East Midlands (England)

Main site or place of performance

Main Road, Cotgrave NG12 2JZ

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Purchase of an electric cremator for a new build crematorium based in Cotgrave Nottingham in the United Kingdom to provide a green solution.

In compliance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015, this contract is subject to a mandatory "standstill" period of at least 10 days. A Contract cannot be entered into with the preferred provider until at least the eleventh calendar day following notification. This would not prevent continuing discussions with the preferred provider to ensure prompt mobilisation. The standstill period is expected to end at midnight at the end of 1 June 2021 and contract discussions commencing on 2 June 2021. If steps are taken during this period to suggest that there may be a formal legal challenge to this award, or the Council determines an issue/concern with the process or preferred submission, then the contract award may be suspended until the matter is resolved (or not concluded if the matter cannot be resolved).

Subject to no legal challenge being received, the Council intends to execute the Contract at the conclusion of the standstill period, and will contact your organisation directly to arrange this.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

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:

Rushcliffe Borough Council is to build a new crematorium at Cotgrave in Nottingham, and will be directly appointing DFW contractors based in the Netherlands to specifically provide an electric cremator.

At the beginning of the project, early 2018, gas cremators were the industry standard and as such it was anticipated that the specialist equipment the Council would procure would follow that standard.

As the project has progressed and with the mandate from Cabinet to continue investigations into new technologies to enable the delivery of a greener crematorium, the Council identified that alternative, greener equipment is available to the industry.

Electric powered cremators can be considered a greener alternative to gas for several reasons; power can be provided by renewable energy and potentially partly generated by on site solutions e.g. solar panels; Carbon Dioxide emissions are substantially lower in comparison to gas cremators, as much as a 90% reduction; Nitrogen Oxide emissions are reduced by around 40% when compared with gas. All of which will prove invaluable with the Council's target of achieving carbon neutral status in its operations by 2030.

Electric cremators have lower running costs than gas cremators and as equipment is kept at a constant temperature, this can result in lower maintenance costs and fewer days out of service for refractory and lining repairs. Whilst the initial capital cost is higher for an electric cremator, the life span of equipment is longer at 15-20 years and it is cheaper to run, both in terms of energy costs and maintenance, thereby providing a better whole life cost, which is reflected in the revised business case.

Future proofing the project is vital to ensure the Council is well placed to meet the demands of a developing industry. Public perception of a greener bereavement industry is likely to become an expectation. In a recent survey 75% of people asked said they would choose a crematorium with an electric cremator over gas after realising the issues involved in cremation emissions. The move by central government to ban gas boilers in

new homes from 2025 is an indicator of where reliance upon gas as an energy source is headed.

After extensive research, officers understand there is currently one electric cremator supplier in the market in a position to fulfil the Council's timescale and cost envelope requirements. This supplier is DFW, a Dutch company who has been manufacturing gas cremators for over 30 years and electric cremators since 2018. The Council's appointed Project Management led Design Team, has explored electric cremator companies available in the market and supports the Council's findings as set out above.

With this understanding, the Council will not use a tendering process, and as no framework provider provides a mechanism to produce a supplier who can provide an electric cremator within the required timescales, the Council will look to directly contract with DFW.

In compliance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015, this contract is subject to a mandatory "standstill" period of at least 10 days. A Contract cannot be entered into with the preferred provider until at least the eleventh calendar day following notification. This would not prevent continuing discussions with the preferred provider to ensure prompt mobilisation. The standstill period is expected to end at midnight at the end of 1 June 2021 with contract discussions from 2 June 2021. If steps are taken during this period to suggest that there may be a formal legal challenge to this award, or the Council determines an issue/concern with the process or preferred submission, then the contract award may be suspended until the matter is resolved (or not concluded if the matter cannot be resolved).

Subject to no legal challenge being received, the Council intends to execute the Contract at the conclusion of the standstill period, and will contact your organisation directly to arrange this.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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

9 March 2021

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

DFW Europe B.V.

Dulleweg 43 - 1721

PM Broek op Langedijk

Email

dennis.jacobs@dfweurope.com

Country

Netherlands

NUTS code

- NL - Netherlands

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: 795,000 EUR

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: 795,000 EUR

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Leanne Ashmore

Rushcliffe Arena, Rugby Road

West Bridgford, Nottingham

NG2 7YG

Email

lashmore@rushcliffe.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom