

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/014240-2023>

Tender

ID4329886 DfE - FE - Framework Agreement for the Provision of Legal Services to FE Sector

Belfast Metropolitan College
FE Belfast Metropolitan College
FE Northern Regional College
FE North West Regional College
FE South Eastern Regional College
FE Southern Regional College
FE South West College

F21: Social and other specific services – public contracts

Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-014240

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03cda2

Published 18 May 2023, 4:36pm

The closing date and time has been changed to:

28 June 2023, 3:00pm

See the [change notice](#).

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Belfast Metropolitan College

Titanic Quarter Campus, 7 Queens Road

BELFAST

BT3 9DT

Email

SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.belfastmet.ac.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/procurement>

I.1) Name and addresses

FE Belfast Metropolitan College

Titanic Quarter Campus, 7 Queens Road

Belfast

BT3 9DT

Email

SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.belfastmet.ac.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/procurement>

I.1) Name and addresses

FE Northern Regional College

Antrim Campus, Fountain Street

Antrim

BT41 4AL

Email

SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.nrc.ac.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/procurement>

I.1) Name and addresses

FE North West Regional College

Strand Road

Londonderry

BT48 7AL

Email

SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.nwrc.ac.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/procurement>

I.1) Name and addresses

FE South Eastern Regional College

Victoria Avenue

Newtownards

BT23 7EH

Email

SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.serc.ac.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/procurement>

I.1) Name and addresses

FE Southern Regional College

Patrick Street

Newry

BT35 8DN

Email

SSDAdmin@finance-ni.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.src.ac.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/procurement>

I.1) Name and addresses

FE South West College

2 Mountjoy Road

Omagh

BT79 7AH

Email

SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://swc.ac.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/procurement>

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract involves joint procurement

I.3) Communication

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

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

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

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

ID4329886 DfE - FE - Framework Agreement for the Provision of Legal Services to FE Sector

Reference number

ID4329886

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79100000 - Legal services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

On behalf of the six Regional Colleges in Northern Ireland ("NI Colleges"):- Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC); Northern Regional College (NRC); North West Regional College (NWRC); Southern Regional College (SRC); South Eastern Regional College (SERC); and South West College (SWC) Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC) wishes to award a Framework Agreement for the provision of legal Services. This competition will establish a Framework Agreement containing Seven (7) Lots for the provision of legal services as described in the Framework Agreement Specification, they are: 1) Employment Equality and Human Rights; 2) Public Law (and corporate governance); 3) Information Law; 4) Property Law; 5) Corporate and Commercial, plus Alternative Dispute Resolution; 6) Procurement Law; and 7) Student / Curriculum. The three highest ranked tenderers for each Lot will be awarded a place on the Framework Agreement. Tenderers can tender for one, multiple, or all Lots. There is no restriction on the number of lots a tenderer may be appointed to; however a tenderer must have the capability and capacity to deliver all lots tendered for.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £1,800,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Tenders may be submitted for maximum number of lots
7

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Lot 1 - Employment Equality and Human Rights

Lot No

1

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79110000 - Legal advisory and representation services
- 79111000 - Legal advisory services
- 79112000 - Legal representation services
- 79120000 - Patent and copyright consultancy services
- 79131000 - Documentation services
- 79132000 - Certification services
- 79140000 - Legal advisory and information services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

On behalf of the six Regional Colleges in Northern Ireland ("NI Colleges"):- Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC); Northern Regional College (NRC); North West Regional College (NWRC); Southern Regional College (SRC); South Eastern Regional College (SERC); and South West College (SWC) Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC) wishes to award a Framework Agreement for the provision of legal Services. This competition will establish a Framework Agreement containing Seven (7) Lots for the provision of legal services as described in the Framework Agreement Specification, they are: 1) Employment Equality and Human Rights; 2) Public Law (and corporate governance); 3) Information Law; 4) Property Law; 5) Corporate and Commercial, plus Alternative Dispute Resolution; 6) Procurement Law; and 7) Student / Curriculum. The three highest ranked

tenderers for each Lot will be awarded a place on the Framework Agreement. Tenderers can tender for one, multiple, or all Lots. There is no restriction on the number of lots a tenderer may be appointed to; however a tenderer must have the capability and capacity to deliver all lots tendered for.

II.2.7) Duration of the contract or the framework agreement

Duration in months

24

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

Lot 2 - Public Law (and corporate governance)

Lot No

2

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79110000 - Legal advisory and representation services
- 79111000 - Legal advisory services
- 79112000 - Legal representation services
- 79120000 - Patent and copyright consultancy services
- 79131000 - Documentation services
- 79132000 - Certification services
- 79140000 - Legal advisory and information services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

On behalf of the six Regional Colleges in Northern Ireland (“NI Colleges”):- Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC); Northern Regional College (NRC); North West Regional College (NWRC); Southern Regional College (SRC); South Eastern Regional College (SERC); and South West College (SWC) Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC) wishes to award a Framework Agreement for the provision of legal Services. This competition will establish a Framework Agreement containing Seven (7) Lots for the provision of legal services as described in the Framework Agreement Specification, they are: 1) Employment Equality and Human Rights; 2) Public Law (and corporate governance); 3) Information Law; 4) Property Law; 5) Corporate and Commercial, plus Alternative Dispute Resolution; 6) Procurement Law; and 7) Student / Curriculum. The three highest ranked tenderers for each Lot will be awarded a place on the Framework Agreement. Tenderers can tender for one, multiple, or all Lots. There is no restriction on the number of lots a tenderer may be appointed to; however a tenderer must have the capability and capacity to deliver all lots tendered for.

II.2.7) Duration of the contract or the framework agreement

Duration in months

24

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

Lot 3 - Information Law

Lot No

3

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79110000 - Legal advisory and representation services
- 79111000 - Legal advisory services
- 79112000 - Legal representation services

- 79120000 - Patent and copyright consultancy services
- 79131000 - Documentation services
- 79132000 - Certification services
- 79140000 - Legal advisory and information services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

On behalf of the six Regional Colleges in Northern Ireland (“NI Colleges”):- Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC); Northern Regional College (NRC); North West Regional College (NWRC); Southern Regional College (SRC); South Eastern Regional College (SERC); and South West College (SWC) Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC) wishes to award a Framework Agreement for the provision of legal Services. This competition will establish a Framework Agreement containing Seven (7) Lots for the provision of legal services as described in the Framework Agreement Specification, they are: 1) Employment Equality and Human Rights; 2) Public Law (and corporate governance); 3) Information Law; 4) Property Law; 5) Corporate and Commercial, plus Alternative Dispute Resolution; 6) Procurement Law; and 7) Student / Curriculum. The three highest ranked tenderers for each Lot will be awarded a place on the Framework Agreement. Tenderers can tender for one, multiple, or all Lots. There is no restriction on the number of lots a tenderer may be appointed to; however a tenderer must have the capability and capacity to deliver all lots tendered for.

II.2.7) Duration of the contract or the framework agreement

Duration in months

24

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

Lot 4 - Property Law

Lot No

4

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79110000 - Legal advisory and representation services
- 79111000 - Legal advisory services
- 79112000 - Legal representation services
- 79120000 - Patent and copyright consultancy services
- 79131000 - Documentation services
- 79132000 - Certification services
- 79140000 - Legal advisory and information services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

On behalf of the six Regional Colleges in Northern Ireland ("NI Colleges"):- Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC); Northern Regional College (NRC); North West Regional College (NWRC); Southern Regional College (SRC); South Eastern Regional College (SERC); and South West College (SWC) Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC) wishes to award a Framework Agreement for the provision of legal Services. This competition will establish a Framework Agreement containing Seven (7) Lots for the provision of legal services as described in the Framework Agreement Specification, they are: 1) Employment Equality and Human Rights; 2) Public Law (and corporate governance); 3) Information Law; 4) Property Law; 5) Corporate and Commercial, plus Alternative Dispute Resolution; 6) Procurement Law; and 7) Student / Curriculum. The three highest ranked tenderers for each Lot will be awarded a place on the Framework Agreement. Tenderers can tender for one, multiple, or all Lots. There is no restriction on the number of lots a tenderer may be appointed to; however a tenderer must have the capability and capacity to deliver all lots tendered for.

II.2.7) Duration of the contract or the framework agreement

Duration in months

24

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

Lot 5 - Corporate and Commercial, plus Alternative Dispute Resolution

Lot No

5

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79110000 - Legal advisory and representation services
- 79111000 - Legal advisory services
- 79112000 - Legal representation services
- 79120000 - Patent and copyright consultancy services
- 79131000 - Documentation services
- 79132000 - Certification services
- 79140000 - Legal advisory and information services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

On behalf of the six Regional Colleges in Northern Ireland ("NI Colleges"):- Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC); Northern Regional College (NRC); North West Regional College (NWRC); Southern Regional College (SRC); South Eastern Regional College (SERC); and South West College (SWC) Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC) wishes to award a Framework Agreement for the provision of legal Services. This competition will establish a Framework Agreement containing Seven (7) Lots for the provision of legal services as described in the Framework Agreement Specification, they are: 1) Employment Equality and Human Rights; 2) Public Law (and corporate governance); 3)

Information Law; 4) Property Law; 5) Corporate and Commercial, plus Alternative Dispute Resolution; 6) Procurement Law; and 7) Student / Curriculum. The three highest ranked tenderers for each Lot will be awarded a place on the Framework Agreement. Tenderers can tender for one, multiple, or all Lots. There is no restriction on the number of lots a tenderer may be appointed to; however a tenderer must have the capability and capacity to deliver all lots tendered for.

II.2.7) Duration of the contract or the framework agreement

Duration in months

24

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

Lot 6 - Procurement Law

Lot No

6

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79110000 - Legal advisory and representation services
- 79111000 - Legal advisory services
- 79112000 - Legal representation services
- 79120000 - Patent and copyright consultancy services
- 79131000 - Documentation services
- 79132000 - Certification services
- 79140000 - Legal advisory and information services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

On behalf of the six Regional Colleges in Northern Ireland ("NI Colleges"):- Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC); Northern Regional College (NRC); North West Regional College (NWRC); Southern Regional College (SRC); South Eastern Regional College (SERC); and South West College (SWC) Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC) wishes to award a Framework Agreement for the provision of legal Services. This competition will establish a Framework Agreement containing Seven (7) Lots for the provision of legal services as described in the Framework Agreement Specification, they are: 1) Employment Equality and Human Rights; 2) Public Law (and corporate governance); 3) Information Law; 4) Property Law; 5) Corporate and Commercial, plus Alternative Dispute Resolution; 6) Procurement Law; and 7) Student / Curriculum. The three highest ranked tenderers for each Lot will be awarded a place on the Framework Agreement. Tenderers can tender for one, multiple, or all Lots. There is no restriction on the number of lots a tenderer may be appointed to; however a tenderer must have the capability and capacity to deliver all lots tendered for.

II.2.7) Duration of the contract or the framework agreement

Duration in months

24

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

Lot 7 - Student / Curriculum

Lot No

7

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79110000 - Legal advisory and representation services
- 79111000 - Legal advisory services

- 79112000 - Legal representation services
- 79120000 - Patent and copyright consultancy services
- 79131000 - Documentation services
- 79132000 - Certification services
- 79140000 - Legal advisory and information services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

On behalf of the six Regional Colleges in Northern Ireland ("NI Colleges"):- Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC); Northern Regional College (NRC); North West Regional College (NWRC); Southern Regional College (SRC); South Eastern Regional College (SERC); and South West College (SWC) Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC) wishes to award a Framework Agreement for the provision of legal Services. This competition will establish a Framework Agreement containing Seven (7) Lots for the provision of legal services as described in the Framework Agreement Specification, they are: 1) Employment Equality and Human Rights; 2) Public Law (and corporate governance); 3) Information Law; 4) Property Law; 5) Corporate and Commercial, plus Alternative Dispute Resolution; 6) Procurement Law; and 7) Student / Curriculum. The three highest ranked tenderers for each Lot will be awarded a place on the Framework Agreement. Tenderers can tender for one, multiple, or all Lots. There is no restriction on the number of lots a tenderer may be appointed to; however a tenderer must have the capability and capacity to deliver all lots tendered for.

II.2.7) Duration of the contract or the framework agreement

Duration in months

24

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 IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Form of procedure

Open procedure

IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

Originally published as:

Date

21 June 2023

Local time

3:00pm

Changed to:

Date

28 June 2023

Local time

3:00pm

See the [change notice](#).

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

English

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Contract monitoring: the successful contractor's performance on the contract will be regularly monitored. Contractors not delivering on contract requirements is a serious matter. It means the public purse is not getting what it is paying for. If a contractor fails to reach satisfactory levels of contract performance they will be given a specified time to improve. If, after the specified time, they still fail to reach satisfactory levels of contract performance, the matter will be escalated to senior management in construction and procurement delivery (CPD) for further action. If this occurs and their performance still does not improve to satisfactory levels within the specified period, this may be considered grounds for termination of the contract at your expense as provided for in the Conditions of Contract. In lieu of termination, CPD may issue a Notice of Written Warning or a Notice of Unsatisfactory Performance. A supplier in receipt of multiple Notices of Written Warning or a Notice of Unsatisfactory Performance may, in accordance with The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended), be excluded from future public procurement competitions for a period of up to three years.

... Framework Agreement: On behalf of the six Regional Colleges in Northern Ireland ("NI Colleges"):-

- Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC).
- Northern Regional College (NRC).
- North West Regional College (NWRC).
- Southern Regional College (SRC).
- South Eastern Regional College (SERC).
- South West College (SWC).

Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC) wishes to award a Framework Agreement for the provision of legal Services. The estimated value over four years is £1,800,000. The College's need for a legal service fluctuates from year to year and so it is not easy to estimate the volume of work. A breakdown by Lot or College is not available. However the main areas of the legal services requirement would be around GDPR, Data protection, HR/Employment law. The Colleges do not give any guarantee as to the volume of work that will be instructed under this framework.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The UK does not have any such bodies with responsibility for appeal/mediation procedures. Instead; any challenges are dealt with by the High Court, Commercial Division, to which proceedings may be issued regarding alleged breaches of the PCR 2015 (as amended).

Belfast

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

CPD will comply with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended) and, where appropriate, will incorporate a standstill period (i.e. a minimum of 10 calendar days) at the point information on the award of framework agreement is communicated to tenderers. That notification will provide full information on the award decision. This provides time for the unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the award decision before the framework agreement is entered into.