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Award

DfE Disability Support for Participants on Training for Success (TfS) and ApprenticeshipsNI (AppsNI)

CPD - Supplies and Services Division

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-014916

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-02c1b7

Published 30 June 2021, 10:24am

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

CPD - Supplies and Services Division

303 Airport Road West

BELFAST

BT3 9ED

Email

ssdadmin.cpd@finance-ni.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

DfE Disability Support for Participants on Training for Success (TfS) and ApprenticeshipsNI (AppsNI)

Reference number

694984

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80400000 - Adult and other education services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Following a competition advertised in the Official Journal of the EU in 21/12/2016 the Department for Economy entered into a contract with 5 suppliers primarily for Disability Support Services to the Departments Training for Success and ApprenticeshipsNI programmes. This contract was procured in line with the provisions of Schedule 3, 'light touch regime', within the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The contract, valued at £4.5

million, was originally let as a two year contract on 31/07/2017. While there was two one year extensions available to cover provision it was originally not envisaged that they would be used. However, this was not the case and both extensions were used modifying the contract value to £6.75 million. The current contract is due to expire 31/07/2021 however, due to the Public Health restrictions that have been in place in 2020 and extended throughout the early part of 2021, as a result of the Covid Pandemic, the Department have been unable to complete the work required under this contract. It has therefore become necessary to further Modify this contract until 31/12/2021 at a cost of £2.05 million under regulation 72(1)(c) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended)

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: £6,750,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN0 - Northern Ireland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Department for the Economy is committed to the development of a highly skilled, flexible and innovative workforce which will contribute to the twin goals of social inclusion and economic success for Northern Ireland. The quality and effectiveness of training for both young people and adults are crucial elements of that process. The purpose of this contract is to provide Disability Support Services to the Departments Training for Success and ApprenticeshipsNI programmes.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

This Contract commenced on award (1 August 2017) and is running until 31 July 2021. The Client availed of both the

options to extend this Contract for two further periods of one year each with the contract due to expire 31 July 2021.

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.2.14) Additional information

This voluntary transparency notice has been published to alert economic operators of the Department for Economy intention to further modify the Disability Support for Participants on Training for Success (TfS) and ApprenticeshipsNI (AppsNI) contract under Regulation 72(1)(c) of the Public Contract Regulations (as amended). The modification will take the form of an extension from 31/07/2021 until 31/12/2021 at a cost of £2.05 million. A modification notice will be published after the modification has been formalised.

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:

This voluntary transparency notice has been published to alert economic operators of the Department for Economy intention to further modify the Disability Support for Participants on Training for Success (TfS) and ApprenticeshipsNI (AppsNI) contract under Regulation 72(1)(c) of the Public Contract Regulations (as amended). The modification will take the form of an extension from 31/07/2021 until 31/12/2021 at a cost of £2.05 million. A modification notice will be published after the modification has been formalised.

Following a competition advertised in the Official Journal of the EU in 21/12/2016 the Department for Economy entered into a contract with 5 suppliers

- The Cedar Foundation
- Clanrye

- Disability Action
- Sensory Learning Support
- Ulster Supported Employment Limited

Primarily for Disability Support Services to the Departments Training for Success and ApprenticeshipsNI programmes. This contract was procured in line with the provisions of Schedule 3, 'light touch regime', within the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The contract, valued at £4.5 million, was originally let as a two year contract on 31/07/2017. While there was two one year extensions available to cover provision it was originally not envisaged they would be used. However, this was not the case and both extensions were used resulting in the contract being modified to the value of £6.75 million. The current contract is due to expire 31/07/2021 however, due to the Public Health restrictions that have been in place in 2020 and extended throughout the early part of 2021, as a result of the Covid Pandemic, the Department have been unable to complete the work required under this contract. It has therefore become necessary to further Modify this contract until 31/12/2021 at a cost of £2.05 million under regulation 72(1)(c) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended). The need for modification has been brought about by circumstances which the authority could not have foreseen; the modification does not alter the overall nature of the contract; and any increase in price does not exceed 50% of the value of the original contract.

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.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2016/S 246-450002](#)

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

694984

Title

DfE Disability Support for Participants on Training for Success (TfS) and ApprenticeshipsNI (AppsNI)

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

31 July 2017

V.2.2) Information about tenders

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

The Cedar Foundation

Belfast

Email

a.woods@cedar-foundation.org

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKM - Scotland

Internet address

<https://www.cedar-foundation.org>

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

Clanrye

Belfast

Email

liam.devine@clanryegroup.com

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKN0 - Northern Ireland

Internet address

<https://www.clanryegroup.com/>

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

Disability Action

Belfast

Email

lauramccartney@disabilityaction.org

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKN - Northern Ireland

Internet address

<https://www.disabilityaction.org/>

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

Sensory Learning Support

Belfast

Email

mail@slsservice.org.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKN - Northern Ireland

Internet address

<http://www.slsservice.org.uk/>

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

Ulster Supported Employment Limited

Belfast

Email

asavage@usel.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKN - Northern Ireland

Internet address

<https://www.usel.co.uk/>

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: £6,050,000

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £6,050,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The value of the modification for the maximum 5 months at a cost of £2.05 Million. The original value of the contract awarded in 2017 was £6.75 million.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

UK Contracting Authorities do not have a review procedure in place. Economic Operators have access to the NI Courts and Tribunal Service if they wish to issue a claim against a contract modification or contract award under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 as amended.

Belfast

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

The UK does not have any special review body with responsibility for appeal/... mediation procedures in public procurement competitions. Instead; any challenges are dealt with by the High Court, Commercial Division, to which proceedings may be issued regarding alleged breaches of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended)