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Planning

## **National Flagship Procurement - Design**

UK Ministry of Defence

F16: Prior information notice for contracts in the field of defence and security

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-015286

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02c329

Published 2 July 2021, 10:45pm

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

#### **I.1) Name, addresses and contact point(s)**

UK Ministry of Defence

MOD Abbey Wood, BS34 8JH

Bristol

#### **Contact**

Michelle Sanders

#### **For the attention of**

Michelle Sanders

#### **Email(s)**

[Michelle.Sanders296@mod.gov.uk](mailto:Michelle.Sanders296@mod.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

### **Further information**

Further information can be obtained from the above mentioned contact point(s)

### **I.2) Type of the contracting authority**

Ministry or any other national or federal authority, including their regional or local subdivisions

### **I.3) Main activity**

Defence

### **I.4) Contract award on behalf of other contracting authorities/entities**

The contracting authority/entity is purchasing on behalf of other contracting authorities/entities:

No

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Title attributed to the contract by the contracting authority/entity:**

National Flagship Procurement - Design

### **II.2) Type of contract and location of works, place of delivery or of performance**

Services

Service category No 17: Architectural services; engineering services and integrated engineering services; urban planning and landscape engineering services; related scientific and technical consulting services; technical testing and analysis services

### **II.3) Information on framework agreement**

The notice involves the establishment of a framework agreement: No

### **II.4) Short description of nature and scope of works or nature and quantity or value of supplies or services**

On 31 May 2021 the UK Prime Minister announced a new National Flagship for the UK. This Flagship will give British businesses a new global platform to promote their products.

The ship, the first of its kind to be built and commissioned by the UK, will boost British trade and drive investment into our economy. The vessel will be used to host high level trade negotiations and trade shows and will sail all over the world promoting British interests.

A typical six month itinerary for the flagship might include docking at a port in a country where a British Prime Ministerial visit is taking place to accommodate parallel discussions between British and local businesses, hosting trade fairs to sell British products to an emerging market and providing the venue for an international ministerial summit or major trade negotiations between the UK and another government.

The ship, the name of which will be announced in due course, will be the first national flagship since 1997 when the HMY Britannia was decommissioned. However, its role will be distinct from that of any previous national flagship, reflecting the UK's new status as an independent trading nation and helping us to seize the opportunities that status presents.

As well as being a resource for British firms looking to export globally, the ship will also be a tangible manifestation of British ingenuity and shipbuilding expertise. The Government's intention is to build the ship in the UK. This will create jobs, help drive a renaissance in the UK's shipbuilding industry and showcase the best of British engineering around the world.

As well as promoting trade, it is expected that the flagship will play an important role in achieving the UK's foreign policy and security objectives, including by hosting summits and other diplomatic talks.

Construction of the ship is expected to begin as soon as next year and the ship will enter service within the next four years. The tendering process for the design and construction of the ship will launch shortly, with an emphasis on building a vessel which reflects British design expertise and the latest innovations in green technology.

The ship will be crewed by the Royal Navy and is expected to be in service for around 30 years.

The ship will be built in the UK, the design will be open to international competition to ensure that we can procure a world class design.

Costs for the construction and operation of the ship will be confirmed following the completion of a competitive tendering process.

The purpose of this PIN is to invite potential suppliers to a period of market engagement prior to the commencement of future competitions for the flagship requirement. The Authority may use feedback from interested parties to further shape its approach and commercial construct.

Parties should note that this is an accelerated programme with constrained timeframes and interested parties should be prepared to work in an agile way to ensure timeframes are met.

As part of this engagement the Authority intends to share the following documents with interested parties.

- High level technical specification; and

- Level 1 procurement plan showing stages and timeframes.

Feedback on the above should be included in your response.

Suppliers who are interested in participating in the market engagement and receive the above documents should write to the Authority at [Michelle.Sanders296@mod.gov.uk](mailto:Michelle.Sanders296@mod.gov.uk) to confirm their interest and to request a market engagement session. With your response you must send:

- a) details of your company name; and

- b) two (2) points of contact and their contact details (name, phone number, email address, postal address).

The deadline for expressions to participate is market engagement 22nd July 2021. Any expression of interest received after this time may be rejected at the Authority's sole discretion.

Prior to receiving the above documents, the Authority will require interested suppliers to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), the baseline form of which will be issued to you following your written expression of interest.

The Authority will be holding an industry day with interested suppliers in the run up to the issue of a formal Contract Notice. In this forum the Authority will provide an overview of

the project. It will also be an opportunity to ask questions, and to meet other potential suppliers.

A Pre-qualification Questionnaire (PQQ) will be published on the DSP shortly. This will be used to qualify suppliers to assess which will be taken through to the Invitation to Negotiate (ITN).

The Authority does not bind itself to enter into any contract(s) arising out of the proceedings envisaged by this PIN and the Authority will not bear any associated costs. It is also to be noted that all information that is to be supplied by the Authority is DRAFT and subject to change.

The design of the national flagship will be conducted in 2 stages, with the expected dates as follows:

Award of contract for stage 1 design 27/09/2021

Award of contract for stage 2 design 24/12/2021

Award of contract for build 21/04/2022

### **Lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

### **II.5) Common procurement vocabulary (CPV)**

- 71320000 - Engineering design services

#### **Additional CPV code(s)**

- 34500000 - Ships and boats
- 34510000 - Ships
- 34512000 - Ships and similar vessels for the transport of persons or goods
- 34512200 - Cruise ships

### **II.6) Scheduled date for start of award procedures and duration of the contract**

Scheduled date for start of award procedures: 27 September 2021

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## **Section VI: Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about European Union funds**

The contract is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds:  
No

### **VI.2) Additional information**

The Contracting Authority intends to use an e-Tendering system in this procurement exercise, please visit [www.contracts.mod.uk](http://www.contracts.mod.uk) for full details and to register your interest in this procurement.

### **VI.3) Information on general regulatory framework**

Relevant governmental Internet sites where information can be obtained

#### **Tax legislation**

[www.legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk)

#### **Environmental protection legislation**

[www.legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk)

#### **Employment protection and working conditions**

[www.legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk)