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Contract

Sectoral and Technical Advisory Resource for Space (STARS)

Highlands and Islands Enterprise

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-015556

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-03b133

Published 1 June 2023, 1:30pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Highlands and Islands Enterprise

An Lòchran, 10 Inverness Campus

Inverness

IV2 5NA

Email

hieprocurement@hient.co.uk

Telephone

+44 1463245245

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM6 - Highlands and Islands

National registration number

313

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.hie.co.uk>

Buyer's address

http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00313

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Regional or local Agency/Office

I.5) Main activity

Economic and financial affairs

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Sectoral and Technical Advisory Resource for Space (STARS)

Reference number

FTS 026

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79400000 - Business and management consultancy and related services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

THIS IS A CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE AND AS SUCH THE PROCUREMENT PROCESS IS COMPLETE.

HIE are seeking to appoint suitably qualified and experienced external independent sectoral, technical and strategic advisory support to contribute to the implementation of the HIE Space Programme. The role of the advisory support is important to HIE's governance around the HIE Space Programme, as it will provide continuity of advice and support to HIE as the Space Programme evolves. It is recognised that the pool of potential companies may be limited, not least by the need to ensure they do not have conflicts of interest which would impinge on their ability to independently advise HIE. For example, companies providing support to HIE should not have a commercial relationship with any proposed launch sites or operators.

These services will be required between 23 May 2023 and 22 May 2025 for a period of 2 years, with HIE having the option to extend twice for a period not exceeding 1 year following the Initial Term (2+1+1 years i.e. maximum total extension period of 2 years, until 22 May 2026 or 2027).

It is a duration contract and payments will be made in arrears, based on the services carried out. Therefore, the total amount paid under this contract might be less than the maximum budget (maximum budget is not guaranteed to be used up). Please refer to the Scope of Requirements and Tender Guidance document for full details.

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: £270,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79410000 - Business and management consultancy services
- 71316000 - Telecommunication consultancy services
- 71351210 - Geophysical consultancy services
- 71621000 - Technical analysis or consultancy services
- 90710000 - Environmental management
- 71350000 - Engineering-related scientific and technical services
- 79311410 - Economic impact assessment
- 90711000 - Environmental impact assessment other than for construction
- 90712000 - Environmental planning
- 90713000 - Environmental issues consultancy services
- 71620000 - Analysis services
- 79310000 - Market research services
- 71313000 - Environmental engineering consultancy services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM6 - Highlands and Islands

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

While there is a growing level of knowledge in relation to space within HIE, independent technical expertise is needed to support its decision-making processes and to highlight opportunities for the Region. To that end, we are seeking to appoint a Sectoral and

Technical Advisory Resource for Space (STARS) which will support the wider HIE Space programme in its implementation and benefits realisation. HIE may also seek to draw down support from the STARS to inform ourselves and our engagement with the sector eg SaxaVord Spaceport, Spaceport 1 and for other projects, see below (Orbex, Machrihanish Airfield Community Company, and potentially others yet to emerge).

Please refer to the Scope of Requirements and Tender Guidance document for full details.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Cyber Security / Weighting: Pass/Fail

Quality criterion - Name: Prompt Payment Standard Clause / Weighting: Pass/Fail

Quality criterion - Name: Management and Delivery Methodology / Weighting: 25%

Quality criterion - Name: Management and Delivery Team / Weighting: 25%

Quality criterion - Name: Risks / Weighting: 5%

Quality criterion - Name: Community Benefits and Wealthbuilding / Weighting: 5%

Price - Weighting: 40%

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

HIE reserves the right, on giving reasonable written notice from time to time, to require changes to the Services (whether by way of the removal of Services, the addition of new Services, or increasing or decreasing the Services or specifying the order in which the Services are to be performed or the locations where the Services are to be provided). HIE shall not require any such change other than where it is permitted by Regulation 72 of the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015. The following are examples of potential modifications:

-where significant new opportunities for economic and community development for the Highlands and Islands arose that would mean that HIE considers that it would benefit from additional Services of a similar character to the Services;

-where HIE requires additional relevant Services as a result of changes in Scottish

Government policy or as a result of a direction given to them by the Scottish Government;

-services no longer required e.g. due to changes in the Space project; HIE budget etc;

-reduction in volume of services required.

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

Economic operators may be excluded from this competition if they are in any of the situations referred to in Regulation 58 of the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015.

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

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: [2023/S 000-006996](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

FTS 026

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

15 May 2023

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 4

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 4

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 1

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 3

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 4

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

AstroAgency Limited

11/5 Easter Dalry Wynd, The Stillhouse

EDINBURGH

EH11 2TB

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £270,000

V.2.5) Information about subcontracting

The contract is likely to be subcontracted

Short description of the part of the contract to be subcontracted

The % of subcontracting is dependent on tasks required.

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

It is estimated that the total value of the services over the maximum duration of 4 years will be GBP 270,000 (excluding VAT). This is the figure which has been used in II.1.5 & II.2.6.

(SC Ref:731053)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Inverness Sheriff Court and Justice of the Peace Court

The Inverness Justice Centre, Longman Road

Inverness

IV1 1AH

Email

inverness@scotcourts.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 1463230782

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/the-courts/court-locations/inverness-sheriff-court-and-justice-of-the-peace-court>

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

An economic operator that suffers, or is at risk of suffering, loss or damage attributable to a breach of duty under the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015 or the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 , may bring proceedings in the Sheriff Court or the Court of Session.