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Contract

Post Office Horizon Inquiry Expert Witness Services

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-016239

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-033929

Published 14 June 2022, 11:30am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

London

Email

cara.jenkins@beis.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKI - London

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-business-energy-and-industrial-strategy>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Post Office Horizon Inquiry Expert Witness Services

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 71319000 - Expert witness services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Services to analyse c. 70,000 documents, identifying significant points relating to the Post Office Horizon Inquiry, and produce a written report which sets out the key points, and provide Expert Witness services during hearings in September.

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: £750,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKI - London

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Services to analyse c. 70,000 documents, identifying significant points relating to the Post Office Horizon Inquiry, and produce a written report which sets out the key points, and provide Expert Witness services during hearings in September.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

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) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- No tenders or no suitable tenders/requests to participate in response to open procedure

Explanation:

1. Unforeseeable requirement: there is a provision in place already to analyse the document pack provided by a different supplier. However, the volume of highly technical documents received was much higher than indicated by the supplier, and the existing provision does not have the required expertise to deliver the requirement. Therefore, this requirement was only identifiable at the receipt of the document pack in March.

2. Hard deadline: This report must be completed and delivered to the relevant parties at the Inquiry sufficiently ahead of the September hearings. This makes a full open competition unfeasible due to timescales required to complete the work.

3. Failed framework competition: we contacted suppliers on the Management and Consultancy Framework 3 to provide Expressions of Interest in delivering this requirement. Our correspondence highlighted the need for the technical expertise, the importance of not having Conflicts of Interest (due to the political and high-profile nature of the Inquiry), experience as an expert witness, & the associated timescales. We received 0 EOs from the suppliers on the MCF3 framework, which has resulted in us moving to STA as our recommended route to market.

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: [2022/S 000-012939](#)

IV.2.9) Information about termination of call for competition in the form of a prior information notice

The contracting authority will not award any further contracts based on the above prior information notice

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

prj_402

Title

Expert Witness Services

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

30 May 2022

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Alix Partners

London

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £750,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

London

Country

United Kingdom