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Tender

External Audit Services

LONDON COUNCILS

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-016419

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0346c8

Published 15 June 2022, 2:08pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

LONDON COUNCILS

59 Half Southwark Street

LONDON

SE10AL

Contact

Richard Merrington

Email

Richard.Merrington@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 2079349722

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKI44 - Lewisham and Southwark

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/>

I.3) Communication

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

<https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/who-we-are/about-us/tenders-and-expressions-interest>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/who-we-are/about-us/tenders-and-expressions-interest>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Other type

A joint committee established under section 101 and 103 of the Local Government Act

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

External Audit Services

Reference number

LC/2022/05/20

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79212000 - Auditing services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

London Councils represents London's 32 borough councils and the City of London. It is a cross party organisation that works on behalf of all of its member authorities regardless of political persuasion.

London Councils' joint committees are established under section 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act 1972 and other enabling legislation. London Councils' governing agreement requires the production and audit of the annual accounts for the joint committees. A similar requirement exists in the Articles of Association of London Councils Limited. As a result of this requirement, London Councils has to produce annual accounts for each of its entities. The activities of the Transport and Environment Committee, the Grants Committee and the company are incorporated into London Councils Joint Committee's consolidated accounts.

London Councils is inviting tenders for the provision of external audit services for a four year period, commencing with the audit of the 2022/23 financial statements and return and ending on the completion of the audit of the 2025/26 financial statements and employers' association return.

On the conclusion of the annual audits, the Potential Provider shall provide an independent audit opinion and report on London Councils' financial statements and employers' return. The audit should be conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK).

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKI - London

Main site or place of performance

59 & Half Southwark Street

London

SE1 0AL

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

London Councils' joint committees are established under section 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act 1972 and other enabling legislation. London Councils' governing agreement requires the production and audit of the annual accounts for the joint committees. A similar requirement exists in the Articles of Association of London Councils Limited. As a result of this requirement, London Councils has to produce annual accounts for each of its entities. The activities of the Transport and Environment Committee, the Grants Committee and the company are incorporated into London Councils Joint Committee's consolidated accounts.

The three joint committee accounts are prepared in accordance with proper practices set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom and the company accounts are prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards including FRS102.

In addition, London Councils, as an employer's association, has an obligation under the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 to submit an annual return (AR27) to the Certification Officer. The information included in the return is based on the audited financial accounts. The act imposes a duty on London Councils to appoint an auditor to audit the accounts included in the return and report on whether they give a true and fair view of the committee's affairs.

London Councils financial year runs from the 1st of April to the 31st of March.

The annual accounts are prepared by London Councils' finance section which is part of the Corporate Resources Division.

London Councils is inviting tenders for the provision of external audit services for a four year period, commencing with the audit of the 2022/23 financial statements and return and ending on the completion of the audit of the 2025/26 financial statements and employers' association return.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system

Start date

1 December 2022

This contract is subject to renewal

No

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions for participation

III.1.1) Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers

List and brief description of conditions

The Potential Provider must be eligible for appointment as a statutory auditor under the Companies Act 2006.

III.1.2) Economic and financial standing

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

III.1.3) Technical and professional ability

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

III.2) Conditions related to the contract

III.2.1) Information about a particular profession

Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession

Reference to the relevant law, regulation or administrative provision

The Potential Provider must be eligible for appointment as a statutory auditor under the Companies Act 2006.

Relevant accounting and auditing standards.

III.2.2) Contract performance conditions

The Potential Provider will be required to prepare an annual external audit plan detailing their scope and approach to their annual audits by the 5th of February of each year and an annual audit report that reflects the outcome of the audit by 5th of September of each year.

The Potential Provider will provide audit opinions to be inserted into the financial statements as necessary and complete the audit report included in the AR27 return.

In addition to expressing an opinion on the financial statements, the Potential Provider will be required to consider the completeness of disclosures in the Annual Governance Statements.

The Audit Committee meets three times a year and it is expected that the Potential Provider's representative will attend at least two of the meetings to present their audit plan and audit report. However, the Audit Committee may request attendance of the Potential Provider at additional meetings or the Potential Provider may seek a meeting with the Chair or member of the Committee.

The Potential Provider will be expected to liaise with London Councils internal auditors during the course of their appointment in order to avoid areas of duplicated work.

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: No

IV.2) Administrative information

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

Date

15 July 2022

Local time

12:00pm

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

English

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

15 July 2022

Local time

12:01pm

Place

59 & Half Southwark Street

London

SE1 0AL

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

London Councils

London

Country

United Kingdom