

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/016709-2022>

Tender

ID 3934214 DoF - Cloud, Infrastructure and Support Services

Department of Finance DoF

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-016709

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0347ea

Published 17 June 2022, 3:07pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Department of Finance DoF

Craigantlet Buildings

BELFAST

BT4 3SX

Email

StrategicDelivery.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.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.3) Communication

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

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

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

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

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

ID 3934214 DoF - Cloud, Infrastructure and Support Services

Reference number

ID 3934214

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The Department of Finance (DoF) wishes to appoint a Contractor for the provision of Cloud, Infrastructure and Support Services (Contract). The Contract will engage a partner for IT Assist (within DoF) who can not only support the existing infrastructure but will also be able to supply new technology and carry out new and innovative projects in order to fulfil IT Assist's ICT Strategy. The vision is that IT Assist will be able to not only replenish and maintain their on-premise environment but also use public cloud facilities. The Contract will be for an initial period of 7 years with the options to extend for two further periods of 2 years and 1 year each.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £60,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

- 72100000 - Hardware consultancy services
- 72110000 - Hardware selection consultancy services
- 72120000 - Hardware disaster-recovery consultancy services
- 72130000 - Computer-site planning consultancy services
- 72140000 - Computer hardware acceptance testing consultancy services
- 72150000 - Computer audit consultancy and hardware consultancy services
- 72200000 - Software programming and consultancy services
- 72210000 - Programming services of packaged software products
- 72220000 - Systems and technical consultancy services
- 72230000 - Custom software development services
- 72240000 - Systems analysis and programming services
- 72250000 - System and support services
- 72260000 - Software-related services
- 72300000 - Data services
- 72320000 - Database services
- 72330000 - Content or data standardization and classification services
- 72500000 - Computer-related services
- 72510000 - Computer-related management services
- 72540000 - Computer upgrade services
- 72590000 - Computer-related professional services
- 72600000 - Computer support and consultancy services
- 72610000 - Computer support services
- 72700000 - Computer network services
- 72710000 - Local area network services
- 72720000 - Wide area network services
- 72800000 - Computer audit and testing services

- 72810000 - Computer audit services
- 72820000 - Computer testing services
- 72900000 - Computer back-up and catalogue conversion services
- 72910000 - Computer back-up services
- 72920000 - Computer catalogue conversion services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Department of Finance (DoF) wishes to appoint a Contractor for the provision of Cloud, Infrastructure and Support Services (Contract). The Contract will engage a partner for IT Assist (within DoF) who can not only support the existing infrastructure but will also be able to supply new technology and carry out new and innovative projects in order to fulfil IT Assist's ICT Strategy. The vision is that IT Assist will be able to not only replenish and maintain their on-premise environment but also use public cloud facilities. The Contract will be for an initial period of 7 years with the options to extend for two further periods of 2 years and 1 year each.

II.2.5) Award criteria

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

II.2.6) Estimated value

Value excluding VAT: £60,000,000

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

Duration in months

84

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: Yes

Description of options

The contract will have two options to extend (subject to the terms of the contract and the performance of the successful Economic Operator) for up to 2 years followed by a further period of up to 1 year.

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

The Contracting Authority reserves the right to award the Contract following submission of Initial Tender Responses and the right to down-select Economic Operators following each round of negotiations..

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

Candidates will be assessed in accordance with Regulation 58 of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 as set out in the Information Memorandum. A selection process will also be used to identify economic operators, who having submitted a response to the Selection Questionnaire, sufficiently demonstrate to the Department's satisfaction the appropriate technical and professional ability, economic, financial and legal standing to meet the requirements of the Contract.

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.2.2) Contract performance conditions

The appointment to the Contract will be subject to the preferred supplier demonstrating that the minimum requirements specified in the selection questionnaire continue to be met and that there being no material adverse change to the standing of the supplier. The appointment will also be subject to all other necessary due diligence being carried out by the Contracting Authority. Contract performance will be subject to the conditions specified in the Contract, which includes a social clause in order to promote equality of opportunity and sustainable development. Further details are set out at Section VI.3 below and furthermore in the Information Memorandum.

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Competitive procedure with negotiation

IV.1.5) Information about negotiation

The contracting authority reserves the right to award the contract on the basis of the initial tenders without conducting negotiations

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

Date

25 July 2022

Local time

3:00pm

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

English

IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender

Tender must be valid until: 20 January 2023

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: Yes

VI.3) Additional information

The Contracting Authority reserves the right: to hold additional rounds of negotiations with Economic Operators; to require the.. submission of any further or additional information or tender submissions; to award the Contract following the submission of initial.. tenders; to award the Contract following conclusion of the first round of negotiation sessions; and/or to down-select Economic Operators. following each round of negotiations. For the avoidance of doubt, final tenders will not be subject to any negotiation with the Contracting. Authority (however, they may be subject to clarification, if required, at the Contracting Authority's absolute discretion). The Contracting. Authority reserves the right: to reject any or all SQ or tender responses and to cancel or withdraw the procurement process at any. stage; to award a contract without prior notice; to change the basis of, the procedure and the timescales set out or referred to in the. procurement documents; to require an Economic Operator to clarify its SQ or tender response in writing and/or provide additional. information; to terminate the procurement process; and/or to amend the terms and conditions of the SQ or tender evaluation process. or negotiation process. . The Contracting Authority does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender. Economic Operators remain. responsible for all costs and expenses incurred by them or by any third party acting under instructions from the Economic Operator in. connection with taking part in this procurement process, regardless of whether such costs arise as a consequence, directly or indirectly,.. of any amendments made to the procurement documents by the Contracting Authority at any time. No legally binding contract shall. arise (and an Economic Operator shall have no legitimate expectation that a contract will be entered into) until such time as entry into. the Contract has been confirmed by the Contracting Authority. Economic Operators should note that all dates, time periods and figures. in relation to values and volumes specified in this notice and the procurement documents are approximate only and the Contracting. Authority reserves the right to change any or all of them. The figure indicated in II.1.5 represents an estimated contract value. This is a maximum figure that reflects the potential scale of the contract and takes into account potential optional extension periods and. the uptake of potential optional services as detailed in the tender documents. The pricing strategy applied and the setting of cost/profit. margins are a commercial decision for economic operators when submitting a bid for this competition. In addition, neither CPD nor the. Contracting Authority can provide any guarantee as to the level of business under this contract. The successful contractor's performance. on the contract will be regularly monitored. Contractors not delivering on contract requirements is a serious matter. It means the public. purse is not getting what it is paying for. If a contractor fails to reach satisfactory levels of contract

performance they will be given a specified time to improve. If, after the specified time, they still fail to reach satisfactory levels of contract performance, the matter will be escalated to senior management in CPD for further action. If this occurs and their performance still does not improve to satisfactory levels within the specified period, it may be regarded as an act of grave professional misconduct and they may be issued with a Notice of Unsatisfactory Performance and the contract may be terminated. The issue of a Notice of unsatisfactory Performance will result in the contractor being excluded from all procurement competitions being undertaken by Centres of Procurement Expertise on behalf of bodies covered by the Northern Ireland Procurement Policy for a period of twelve months from the date of issue of the Notice. This contract will not be awarded in Lots as a single supplier is required..

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

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 PCR 2015

Belfast

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

CPD will comply with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and, where appropriate, will incorporate a standstill period (i.e. a minimum of 10 calendar days) at the point information on the award of contract is communicated to tenderers. That notification will provide full information on the award decision. This provides time for the unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the award decision before the contract is entered into..