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Tender

## **ID 4771087 - DoF - NIAO - Provision of External Audit Services**

Department of Finance DoF  
Northern Ireland Audit Office NIAO

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-017213

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03d719

Published 16 June 2023, 2:59pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Department of Finance DoF

303 Airport Road West

BELFAST

BT3 9ED

#### **Contact**

SSDAdmin.CPDfinance-ni.gov.uk

#### **Email**

[SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/procurement>

**I.1) Name and addresses**

Northern Ireland Audit Office NIAO

106 University Street

Belfast

BT7 1EU

**Email**

[SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk)

**Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKN - Northern Ireland

**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 involves joint procurement

## **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 to the above-mentioned address

## **I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

## **I.5) Main activity**

General public services

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

ID 4771087 - DoF - NIAO - Provision of External Audit Services

Reference number

4771087

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 79212000 - Auditing services

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

The Client is seeking to appoint a Contractor to provide an external audit service for the NIAO. The Contract shall cover the audit of the 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 Resource Accounts, with the option of extending annually to cover the 2026-27 and 2027-28 accounts. The Contract will also cover examinations of the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of the use of resources by NIAO in the same periods where required.

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £150,000

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 79212200 - Internal audit services
- 79200000 - Accounting, auditing and fiscal services
- 79210000 - Accounting and auditing services
- 79212300 - Statutory audit services

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The Client is seeking to appoint a Contractor to provide an external audit service for the NIAO. The Contract shall cover the audit of the 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 Resource Accounts, with the option of extending annually to cover the 2026-27 and 2027-28 accounts. The Contract will also cover examinations of the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of the use of resources by NIAO in the same periods where required.

#### **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: £150,000

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

Duration in months

36

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

The Contract shall run for an initial period of three years with the option to end for two further one year periods.

### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: Yes

### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

The Contract shall run for an initial period of three years with the option to end for two further one year periods.

### **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 appointment and duties of the Auditor of the Northern Ireland Audit Office are governed by the Audit (Northern Ireland) Order 1987 (the Order), which can be found at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisi/1987/460/contents/made>. . Under current arrangements, Article 6(4) of the Order, the Department of Finance (DoF) is required to appoint an Auditor for NIAO. The appointment will be made by DoF acting on advice from the Audit Committee of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

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## **Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

### **III.1) Conditions for participation**

#### **III.1.3) Technical and professional ability**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

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

Date

25 July 2023

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: 23 October 2023

#### **IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders**

Date

25 July 2023

Local time

3:30pm

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: Yes

### **VI.2) Information about electronic workflows**

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

### **VI.3) Additional information**

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 their place on 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.

### **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. Any challenges are dealt with by the High Court Commercial Division to which proceedings may be issued regarding alleged breaches of the Public Contracts Regulations

UK

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 (as amended) 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 on the award decision.