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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

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

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

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.

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

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 the award decision.