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Planning

## National Reference Tests (NRT)

Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual)

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-017848

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-034c5e

Published 30 June 2022, 10:15am

### Section I: Contracting authority

#### I.1) Name and addresses

Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual)

Earlsdon Park, 53-55 Butts Rd

Coventry

CV1 3BH

#### Contact

Adrian Higginbotham

#### Email

[procurement@ofqual.gov.uk](mailto:procurement@ofqual.gov.uk)

#### Country

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKG33 - Coventry

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://ofqual.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

[https://www.mytenders.co.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA29088](https://www.mytenders.co.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA29088)

**I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

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

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

**I.5) Main activity**

Education

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## **Section II: Object**

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

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

National Reference Tests (NRT)

Reference number

OF923

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

- 80200000 - Secondary education services

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

Services

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

To provide the National Reference Tests (NRT) in England on behalf of Ofqual.

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

Value excluding VAT: £10,000,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

The contracting authority reserves the right to award contracts combining the following lots or groups of lots:

Ofqual is open to the possibility of awarding the contract to a single supplier/consortium, or on the basis of multiple lots.

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

#### **II.2.1) Title**

National Reference Tests provider - lots

Lot No

2

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

- 80200000 - Secondary education services

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

UKG

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

See description of lot 1 regarding consideration of awarding work as multiple lots.

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

National Reference Tests provider

Lot No

1

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

- 73430000 - Test and evaluation
- 73300000 - Design and execution of research and development

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

NUTS codes

- UKG - West Midlands (England)

Main site or place of performance

England

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

To provide Ofqual with the National Reference tests (NRT) as described in the document at [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/844389/NRT\\_2019\\_General\\_Report\\_background\\_-\\_FINAL196527.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/844389/NRT_2019_General_Report_background_-_FINAL196527.pdf) from the 2025 test year for a number of years which is to be decided and to explore uses of technology in assessment as set out in the Ofqual corporate plan 202225.

(See Section II.1.6 for information about the lot structure).

## **II.2.14) Additional information**

Further information about the NRT can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-reference-test-information>

The estimated value of 10m GBP is based on delivering the NRT for 5 years from 2025.

## **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

14 June 2023

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

Ofqual welcomes discussion with organisations interested in being invited to tender to provide the NRT or part(s) there of. The expected start date of the contract is July 2023. This allows for managed transition between suppliers if applicable. It is expected that a supplier qualification exercise will take place in October and invitations to tender be issued in January 2023.

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the myTenders Web Site at

[https://www.mytenders.co.uk/Search/Search\\_Switch.aspx?ID=226560](https://www.mytenders.co.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=226560).

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