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Contract

Provision of a Host Body for the Anti-Racism Observatory for Scotland (AROS)

Scottish Government

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-018236

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04532d

Published 1 May 2025, 8:48am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Scottish Government

5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw

Glasgow

G2 8LU

Contact

Gary Crombie

Email

Gary.Crombie@gov.scot

Telephone

+44 7392287522

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM - Scotland

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA10482

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Provision of a Host Body for the Anti-Racism Observatory for Scotland (AROS)

Reference number

668218

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 98340000 - Accommodation and office services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

We are seeking a Supplier who can operate in the anti-racism arena showing strong ties and commitment to anti-racism from a corporate level down to all levels of their organisation. For avoidance of doubt the Host Organisation will be the Supplier. The Scottish Government (on the recommendation of the Anti-Racism Interim Governance Group and built from the recommendation from the Covid19 and Ethnicity Expert Reference Group) is seeking to contract with a host organisation for a period of two years to incubate the Anti-Racism Observatory for Scotland (AROS). The AROS will be an independent organisation funded by the Scottish Government and will deliver its mission and strategy through the governance of an Advisory Group.

Scottish Government (the Buyer) are fully funding AROS. Therefore the commercial relationship will be between Scottish Government and the Supplier.

Further information can be found on the Scottish Government's website Developing National Anti-Racism Infrastructure: Interim Governance Group - gov.scot (www.gov.scot) and Anti-Racism Vision Mission and Anti-Racism Method and Structure documents.

The Supplier must provide the following services:

Administrative, Finance

Human Resources including Recruitment (excludes employment)

Operational Delivery

Accommodation for AROS Staff and

Recommendation Report

The successful bidder will enable AROS to meet its objectives and support AROS to become a fully independent body. It will house senior staff (appointed by the advisory group) to lead the AROS workplan.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £2,826,472.75

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79621000 - Supply services of office personnel
- 75100000 - Administration services
- 98340000 - Accommodation and office services
- 72222300 - Information technology services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM - Scotland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Scottish Government (on the recommendation of the Anti-Racism Interim Governance Group and built from the recommendation from the Covid19 and Ethnicity Expert Reference Group) is seeking to contract with a host organisation for a period of two years to incubate the Anti-Racism Observatory for Scotland (AROS). The Host Organisation will be an independent organisation funded by the Scottish Government for improvement of public Scottish institutions and will deliver its mission and strategy through the governance of an external Advisory Group

Further information can be found on the Scottish Government's website Developing National Anti-Racism Infrastructure: Interim Governance Group - gov.scot (www.gov.scot) and Anti Racism Vision Mission and Anti Racism Method and Structure documents.

We are seeking a Supplier who can demonstrate they align with the values of the AROS, which include a commitment to antiracism, intersectional practice. This tender is for a Host Body to provide the infrastructure and personnel.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Understanding the Requirement / Weighting: 20

Quality criterion - Name: Mobilisation / Weighting: 15

Quality criterion - Name: Knowledge and Skills / Weighting: 20

Quality criterion - Name: Contract Management / Weighting: 20

Quality criterion - Name: Climate Emergency / Weighting: 5

Quality criterion - Name: Fair Work / Weighting: 10

Quality criterion - Name: Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery / Weighting: 5

Quality criterion - Name: Community Benefits / Weighting: 5

Price - Weighting: 30

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

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

This contract may be extended by 3 months at the discretion of Scottish Ministers.

The evaluation consists of some minimum mandatory score of 2 questions. Bidders who fail to meet the mandatory score of 2 will not progress to the Price Quality Ratio evaluation and will score 0 for their commercial score.

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.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2024/S 000-021179](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

668218

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

24 April 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 4

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 2

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 4

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 4

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

University of Strathclyde

Estates Services, 181 St James Road

Glasgow

G4 0NT

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKM82 - Glasgow City

The contractor is an SME

No

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot: £2,826,472.75

V.2.5) Information about subcontracting

The contract is likely to be subcontracted

Value or proportion likely to be subcontracted to third parties

Proportion: 20 %

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

SPD will be scored on a pass/fail basis.

The contract award criteria will be Price 30%/Quality 70 %.

Question Scoring Methodology for Award Criteria outlined in invitation to tender:

0 — Unacceptable. Nil or inadequate response. Fails to demonstrate an ability to meet the requirement.

1 — Poor. Response is partially relevant but generally poor. The response addresses some elements of the requirement but contains insufficient/limited detail or explanation to demonstrate how the requirement will be fulfilled.

2 — Acceptable. Response is relevant and acceptable. The response addresses a broad understanding of the requirement but may lack details on how the requirement will be fulfilled in certain areas.

3 — Good. Response is relevant and good. The response is sufficiently detailed to demonstrate a good understanding and provides details on how the requirements will be fulfilled.

4 — Excellent. Response is completely relevant and excellent overall.

Bidders must complete the SPD (Scotland) to demonstrate adherence to the Exclusion and Selection Criteria for this procurement.

Bidders must confirm that they will include the standard clause in all contracts used in the delivery of the requirements, ensuring payment of subcontractors at all stages of the supply chain within 30 days and include a point of contact for subcontractors to refer to in the case of payment difficulties. This will require active monitoring of payment performance and provision of evidence and reporting to the Scottish Government on a regular basis.

Bidders who fail to answer "Yes" or "Not Applicable" to this question will not have their tender considered further.

(SC Ref:797640)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Sheriff Court House

27 Chamber Street

Edinburgh

Country

United Kingdom