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Contract

ID 3628970 – DAERA - The Northern Ireland Countryside Survey

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-018453

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

Published 6 July 2022, 10:52am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Ballymiscaw

BELFAST

BT4 3SB

Email

SSDAdmin.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.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 3628970 – DAERA - The Northern Ireland Countryside Survey

Reference number

ID 3628970

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 90000000 - Sewage, refuse, cleaning and environmental services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

DAERA requires the Contractor to deliver a repeat of the NI Countryside Survey to provide a statistically robust assessment of land cover change and habitat condition in NI since the previous Countryside Survey in 2007. The Contractor will use this data to assess the outcomes of the current NI agri-environment scheme (EFS) in terms of habitat condition and establishment of green infrastructure. In addition, the Contractor will be required to record primary measurements of soil condition which influence soil function. This will form a baseline assessment of soil condition and function in NI Countryside Survey squares and will assess the linkages between soil condition and overlying vegetation. Where appropriate, this data may be used to feed into an assessment of land cover change at a UK scale in association with data being collected through the current Countryside Survey in GB.

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: £3,160,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 90700000 - Environmental services
- 90721700 - Endangered species protection services
- 90720000 - Environmental protection
- 90711500 - Environmental monitoring other than for construction
- 90714100 - Environmental information systems
- 90722000 - Environmental rehabilitation
- 90710000 - Environmental management
- 90721100 - Landscape protection services
- 71355000 - Surveying services
- 79311000 - Survey services
- 79311100 - Survey design services
- 79311300 - Survey analysis services
- 79330000 - Statistical services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

DAERA requires the Contractor to deliver a repeat of the NI Countryside Survey to provide a statistically robust assessment of land cover change and habitat condition in NI since the previous Countryside Survey in 2007. The Contractor will use this data to assess the outcomes of the current NI agri-environment scheme (EFS) in terms of habitat condition and establishment of green infrastructure. In addition, the Contractor will be required to record primary measurements of soil condition which influence soil function. This will form a baseline assessment of soil condition and function in NI Countryside Survey squares and will assess the linkages between soil condition and overlying vegetation. Where appropriate, this data may be used to feed into an assessment of land cover change at a UK scale in association with data being collected through the current Countryside Survey in GB.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: AC1 Programme Manager Experience / Weighting: 5.6

Quality criterion - Name: AC2 Key Personnel Experience - Work Packages 1 3 / Weighting: 15.4

Quality criterion - Name: AC3 Key Personnel Experience – Work Package 2 / Weighting: 7

Quality criterion - Name: AC4 Field Surveyors – Work Package 1 – Resourcing Methodology / Weighting: 7

Quality criterion - Name: AC5 Proposed Methodology - WP1 - Development of Field/Technical Manuals, Strategies and Fieldwork Plans / Weighting: 7

Quality criterion - Name: AC6 Proposed Methodology – WP1 - Field Survey, data analysis and reports / Weighting: 8.75

Quality criterion - Name: AC7 Proposed Methodology – WP2 / Weighting: 7

Quality criterion - Name: AC8 Proposed Methodology – WP3 / Weighting: 5.25

Quality criterion - Name: AC9 Contract Management, Implementation and Contingency / Weighting: 7

Cost criterion - Name: AC10 Total Contract Price / Weighting: 30

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

The Contract commenced in June 2022, for an initial period of 6 years with an optional extension period of 2 years following the end of the initial period.

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: Yes

Identification of the project

Rural Development Programme

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: [2022/S 035-091745](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

1

Title

Contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

29 June 2022

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 2

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 0

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

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 2

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 2

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

UK Centre For Ecology Hydrology

UKCEH, Maclean Building, Crowmarsh Gifford

Wallingford

OX10 8BB

Email

cehtendersupport@ceh.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 1491838800

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

Internet address

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

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £3,160,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £3,160,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Contract Monitoring. The successful contractor's performance on the contract will be regularly monitored in line with PGN 01/12. 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 Certificate of Unsatisfactory Performance and the contract may be terminated. The issue of a Certificate 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 certificate. The Authority expressly reserves the rights: (I) not to award any contract as a result of the procurement process commenced by publication of this notice; (II) to make whatever changes it may see fit to the content and structure of the tendering Competition; (III) to award (a) contract(s) in respect of any part(s) of the services covered by this notice; and (IV) to award contract(s) in stages. In no circumstances will the Authority be liable for any costs incurred by candidates.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The UK does not have any such bodies with responsibility for appeal/mediation procedures. 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 as amended.

Belfast

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

CPD complied with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended) and incorporated a standstill period (i.e. a minimum of 10 calendar days) at the point information on the award of contract was communicated to tenderers. That notification provided full information on the award decision. This provided time for the unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the award decision before the contract was entered into.