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Contract

## **AFBI - Provision of Field Surveyors**

Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-019029

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03b29d

Published 4 July 2023, 2:49pm

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

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

Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute

Newforge Lane

BELFAST

BT9 5PX

#### **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://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Buyer's address

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

## **I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

## **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**

AFBI - Provision of Field Surveyors

Reference number

4625366

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

- 77000000 - Agricultural, forestry, horticultural, aquacultural and apicultural services

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

Services

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

DAERA (Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs) have commissioned a repeat of the NI Countryside Survey. Standard protocols will be followed, in line with the GB Countryside Survey, across a sample set of quarter kilometre (25ha) grid squares located throughout NI. The Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH) in GB are leading the study, partnered by AFBI and QUB. The NI Countryside Survey provides a consistent long-term dataset for analysis of the effects of countryside, agricultural and other policies and pressures as drivers of change. The survey will be a repeat of the previous survey, commissioned in 2007, and will include a large soils component. AFBI wishes to establish a framework to engage a number of surveyors to complete vegetation and accompanying soil sampling for the DAERA NI Countryside Survey field surveys in 2023. Companies / consultants can provide more than one surveyor, or sole traders can apply independently. Please note that all proposed surveyors will be assessed independently.

#### **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: £200,000

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

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

- 77000000 - Agricultural, forestry, horticultural, aquacultural and apicultural services

**II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

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

DAERA (Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs) have commissioned a repeat of the NI Countryside Survey. Standard protocols will be followed, in line with the GB Countryside Survey, across a sample set of quarter kilometre (25ha) grid squares located throughout NI. The Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH) in GB are leading the study, partnered by AFBI and QUB. The NI Countryside Survey provides a consistent long-term dataset for analysis of the effects of countryside, agricultural and other policies and pressures as drivers of change. The survey will be a repeat of the previous survey, commissioned in 2007, and will include a large soils component. AFBI wishes to establish a framework to engage a number of surveyors to complete vegetation and accompanying soil sampling for the DAERA NI Countryside Survey field surveys in 2023. Companies / consultants can provide more than one surveyor, or sole traders can apply independently. Please note that all proposed surveyors will be assessed independently.

**II.2.5) Award criteria**

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 60

Cost criterion - Name: Cost / Weighting: 40

**II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

The Authority may extend the framework for a further period of up to 12 months.

**II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

## **Section IV. Procedure**

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

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Open procedure

#### **IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system**

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

#### **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: [2023/S 000-007370](#)

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## **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**

16 May 2023

#### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

Number of tenders received: 4

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 4

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 3

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 1

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 4

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: Yes

#### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

FitzGerald Ecology

Newforge Lane

Dublin

BT9 5PX

Email

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

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKN - Northern Ireland

Internet address

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

The contractor is an SME

Yes

### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

Tckecology

Tiernee, Lettermore, Co Galway, Ireland

Co Galway

H91CDK4

Email

[Tckecology@gmail.com](mailto:Tckecology@gmail.com)

Country

Ireland

NUTS code

- IE - Ireland

Internet address

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

The contractor is an SME

Yes

**V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

ABDEcology

Slievemish Bungalow, Shanahill West, Castlemaine, Co. Kerry, Ireland

Castlemaine

V93A9C8

Email

[abodecology@gmail.com](mailto:abodecology@gmail.com)

Country

Ireland

NUTS code

- IE - Ireland

Internet address

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

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £200,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £200,000

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **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 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 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 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. This provides time for the unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the award decision before the contract is entered into.