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Planning

SHET network segregation project and networking support services

SCOTTISH HYDRO ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION PLC

F04: Periodic indicative notice – utilities

Reducing time limits for receipt of tenders

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-020844

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-047bc4

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Section I: Contracting entity

I.1) Name and addresses

SCOTTISH HYDRO ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION PLC

Inveralmond House, 200 Dunkeld Road

PERTH

PH13AQ

Contact

James Pike

Email

james.pike@sse.com

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKM77 - Perth & Kinross and Stirling

Companies House

SC213461

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/>

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://sse.app.jaggaer.com/esop/guest/go/opportunity/detail?opportunityId=386>

I.6) Main activity

Other activity

IT Services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

SHET network segregation project and networking support services

Reference number

7647

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72700000 - Computer network services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission seek a skilled provider of network and security consulting and project delivery services to design and deliver a major IT network and authentication re-structure.

The objective of the project is to further segregate SHET network zones from SSE corporate networking, enabling SHET to apply networking changes in a more agile way with less inter-group dependency. The projects span both IT and OT (operational technology).

This project will in 2025 define a costed strategy, architecture secure design, support model and execution plan for SHET to meet its desired network and security outcomes, with execution of the approved design to follow in 2026 as part of the RIIO-T3 regulatory period. On-site execution will take place across the territory of Scotland.

The supplier should be able to provide CREST certified penetration testing services

It is desirable that the supplier have the capability to provide IT managed services and project delivery services (for example but not limited to networking, infrastructure, cybersecurity specialisms) and professional services as this may be a future requirement.

The PIN estimate reflects a combination of initial project delivery, contingency, potential ad-hoc projects and support services, and is not a promise or guarantee that the estimate will be

reached during the initial or renewal terms.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £60,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

Onsite delivery to take place across the geography of Scotland, any remote delivery services to be performed within the UK

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The objective of the project is to further segregate SHET network zones from SSE corporate networking, enabling SHET to apply networking changes in a more agile way with less inter-group dependency, and where relevant limit personnel access to network segments. The projects span both IT and OT (operational technology); on-site execution will take place across the territory of Scotland.

Project 1 - 2025 (Part of RIIO-T2):

Provide costed strategy options to fulfil the programme outcome, this to include;

- 'To-be' estate architecture and security design (including Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery design)
- 'To be' support model
- 'To-be' Resource Plan, including skills matrix and recruitment plan.
- Detailed estate transition execution plan including, hypercare and Handover to Support

approach

- Risk assessment, management and mitigation approach
- 'End-state' assessment approach of final estate post-transformation; creating report summarizing outcomes achieved/partially achieved, testing/pen-testing outcomes, residual management/activity required to retain acceptable risk level and manage emerging risk

The design phase to provide options that can be reviewed and agreed with by SHET:

- o High Level Design Options with level of risk for acceptance
- o Low Level Design Options with level of risk for acceptance
- The current network design is complex with a disparate combination of separate and shared services with other SSE businesses. It is important that the design for the "To-Be" solution minimises the risk to the business during the transformation from the current network architecture to the future model. Suppliers should appreciate transition will be undertaken in the context of a live operating environment.
- SHET may wish to see an approach where a supplier can deliver a scalable proof of concept of key assemblies in a reasonable time, to demonstrate and rigour-test a solution approach prior to mass-scale deployment

The estate transformation will include the following;

- Creating a new physically and logically separated Active Directory, directory scheme, configuration, and access control structure.
- Physical separation of network and server infrastructure; including:
 - o Servers (including data centres)
 - o Storage, backups
 - o Fibres (using existing fibre bundles/lines)
 - o Switches
 - o Routers
 - o SHET dedicated firewall appliances
 - o Wide Area Network communications between SCADA and remote sites

o Firewalls

- Physical separation in Purdue level 3, in RIIO-T3, such that Transmission OT systems are only accessible to Transmission staff and their approved suppliers.
- Separation of remote devices so they are ringfenced to only access a specific network zone.

The prospective supplier should ensure that their proposed design recommendation has been thoroughly reviewed by their internal design authority and will be required to seek design approval from SHET's own design authority.

Project 2 - 2026 (Part of RIIO-T3):

EXECUTE the agreed costed strategy option; including:

- Delivery of estate transformation (including on-site work pan-Scotland)
- Solution testing including functional, pen-testing, BCDR testing (where appropriate)
- Project management of suppliers own resources, feed into SHET project, programme and design governance. Actively manage risk and mitigate service impact during transition.
- Service Transition including SCADA Centre and Sub-stations
- Post-implementation hyper-care
- Final outcomes and testing report

Other services

The supplier should be able to provide CREST certified penetration testing services

It is desirable that the supplier have the capability to provide IT managed services and project delivery services (for example but not limited to networking, infrastructure, cybersecurity specialisms) and professional services as this may be a future requirement.

The PIN estimate reflects a combination of initial project delivery, contingency, potential ad-hoc projects and support services, and is not a promise or guarantee that the estimate will be reached during the initial or renewal terms.

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: £60,000,000

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system

Duration in months

96

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

Total term of 8 years reflects a top end estimate, including initial project delivery (timescale to be confirmed through detailed planning with successful tenderer) plus option for ongoing services subject to SHET agreeing such services with the successful tenderer

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

19 August 2024

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions for participation

III.1.1) Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers

List and brief description of conditions

Prospective suppliers should be able to commit that they have reasonable procedures in place for the prevention of modern slavery, human trafficking, financial crime and bribery

Prospective suppliers should be able to commit to revealing the identity of any third party subcontractors or solutions upon which their delivery of services would be dependent. SHET may require the right to undertake business probity, financial, cybersecurity and other compliance reviews of subcontractors.

Prospective suppliers may be required to sign a Non-Disclosure-Agreement before security sensitive content is shared with them

Other or additional conditions of participation may be set out in the final tender documents.

III.1.2) Economic and financial standing

List and brief description of selection criteria

Prospective suppliers must have a minimum turnover of £50m p.a.

The financial standing of a prospective supplier must give SHET reasonable confidence that they can successfully fund the services for the duration and accept reasonable liability in line with the level of risk their project presents to SHET.

Other/additional requirements may be set out in the final tender documents.

III.1.3) Technical and professional ability

List and brief description of selection criteria

Prospective suppliers should be able to evidence strong knowledge and experience in the delivery of similar projects, including multiple secure network implementations/re-structures at similar scale

Prospective suppliers should be familiar with major brands of OT and IT equipment

Additional requirements may be set out in the final tender documents.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required

Prospective suppliers will be required to be accredited to SOC2 or ISO27001 level (or recognized equivalent)

Prospective suppliers should be able to provide personnel based in the UK (during delivery) who have been through enhanced background vetting or carry current security clearance (SC or above). The same vetting expectation may be required for subcontractors of the supplier who work on the delivery

Prospective suppliers should be knowledgeable in NIST standard SP800-53

Penetration test personnel provided should be CREST accredited.

Additional requirements may be set out in the final tender documents.

III.2) Conditions related to the contract

III.2.3) Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract

Obligation to indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to performing the contract

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

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

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with a single operator

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted

English

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.2) Information about electronic workflows

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

SSE Plc.

Perth, Scotland

Country

United Kingdom