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Planning

## **Market Engagement for Specialist Science and Contingency Services**

Defra Network eTendering Portal

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-021385

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03e9d4

Published 25 July 2023, 8:32am

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

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

Defra Network eTendering Portal

17 Nobel House

London

SW1P 3JR

#### **Email**

[sscs@defra.gov.uk](mailto:sscs@defra.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 3000603900

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs>

Buyer's address

<https://defra-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

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

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

**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**

Environment

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## Section II: Object

### II.1) Scope of the procurement

#### II.1.1) Title

Market Engagement for Specialist Science and Contingency Services

#### II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services

#### II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

#### II.1.4) Short description

This notice is for information only and is not a call for competition. Defra reserves the right not to enter a formal procurement process and not proceed with any contract award. The purpose of this next round of market engagement is to a) validate the draft specifications and b) determine whether there is capacity and capability in the market to carry out these activities to the required throughput and quality and within the timescales indicated.

Participants will be required to sign a two-way Non-Disclosure Agreement. Interested parties should send an email to [sscs@defra.gov.uk](mailto:sscs@defra.gov.uk) by 17:00 (GMT) on 31st July 2023, indicating their wish for inclusion.

#### II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

### II.2) Description

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

- 90720000 - Environmental protection
- 90721400 - Genetic resources protection services
- 79411000 - General management consultancy services
- 90721300 - Food or feed contamination protection services
- 73210000 - Research consultancy services
- 73112000 - Marine research services

- 79411100 - Business development consultancy services
- 79420000 - Management-related services
- 90711500 - Environmental monitoring other than for construction
- 90715000 - Pollution investigation services
- 90712300 - Marine conservation strategy planning
- 90712200 - Forest conservation strategy planning
- 73100000 - Research and experimental development services
- 90722000 - Environmental rehabilitation
- 73111000 - Research laboratory services
- 90721700 - Endangered species protection services
- 73200000 - Research and development consultancy services
- 79311300 - Survey analysis services
- 85200000 - Veterinary services
- 85200000 - Veterinary services
- 90721800 - Natural risks or hazards protection services
- 90712400 - Natural resources management or conservation strategy planning services
- 90721000 - Environmental safety services
- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 73110000 - Research services

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

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

Defra currently operates a framework contract providing scientific evidence and services to support its policy making and operational responsibilities including emergency response capabilities in relation to food and the environment. The contract is also used by other government departments, including but not limited to the Food Standards Agency,

Welsh Government and the Home Office. This framework is due to expire 31st March 2025. Any new provider must have the ability to deliver reliable, high-quality business and scientific services competitively; well-proven transition and transformational capabilities within challenging timeframes; and possess a vision and commitment to enhance relevant scientific capability into the future. The seamless continuation of services is essential due to statutory requirements, and Defra therefore must have a supplier that has the required capabilities in place within the timescales outlined in the Specification.

Interested parties can register to participate by emailing [sscs@defra.gov.uk](mailto:sscs@defra.gov.uk) ensuring that 'Specialist Science and Contingency Services ME Session 3' is included in the subject of the email. Please provide details of your organisation, the names, emails and job titles of who will be participating and we will email a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) for you to sign and return. The NDA is non-negotiable. This notice is for information only and will help determine the procurement strategy for provision of the services to Defra. This is not a call for competition. Defra reserves the right not to enter a formal procurement process and not proceed with any contract award.

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

2 October 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