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Tender

## **Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy Programme - Cross-Regional Supplier Framework and Call-Off Contracts**

Department of Science, Innovation & Technology

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-021831

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-03eae0

Published 27 July 2023, 2:05pm

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

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

Department of Science, Innovation & Technology

100 Parliament Street

London

SW1A 2BQ

#### **Contact**

BDUK

#### **Email**

[gis-procurements@dcms.gov.uk](mailto:gis-procurements@dcms.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKI - London

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-science-innovation-and-technology>

Buyer's address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-science-innovation-and-technology>

**I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://bduk.force.com/s/Welcome>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://bduk.force.com/s/Welcome>

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

Electronic communication requires the use of tools and devices that are not generally available. Unrestricted and full direct access to these tools and devices is possible, free of charge, at

<https://bduk.force.com/s/Welcome>

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

**I.5) Main activity**

Other activity

Telecommunications

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy Programme - Cross-Regional Supplier Framework and Call-Off Contracts

Reference number

C0371

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

- 64200000 - Telecommunications services

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

Services

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

This procurement is for the award of a Cross-Regional Supplier Framework and Initial Call-Off Contracts for multiple regions within the United Kingdom (UK). This is part of the Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy programme.

The Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy Programme is a government programme aimed to support the build of gigabit-capable broadband infrastructure in the areas of the UK which are unlikely to attract commercial investment for gigabit-capable broadband infrastructure within a reasonable timeframe, if at all, referred to as the final 20% (f20). Building Digital UK (BDUK, part of DSIT) will be targeting its market intervention in these areas of the UK via this subsidy award programme, to subsidise the build of gigabit-capable networks providing long-term, sustainable availability of wholesale gigabit broadband services in the hardest to reach parts of the UK. The Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy programme builds on the success of existing programmes being delivered by BDUK to deliver gigabit-capable networks across the UK. It is envisaged this programme will last for up to 9 years and award contracts throughout that period.

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £800,000,000

#### **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

UK

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

BDUK intends to establish a Cross-Regional Single Supplier Framework, known colloquially as Type C, to award call-off contracts over the life of the Framework.

The Cross-Regional Framework is intended to appoint a single supplier to build gigabit-capable broadband infrastructure and whose role would be to target premises in respect of which (1) no or no appropriate market interest has been received through GIS market engagement steps for proposed Type A or Type B procurement areas; (2) BDUK has not awarded a contract following a procurement for Type A or Type B areas; (3) Type A or Type B contracts that cover these premises fail to be delivered by the supplier and are descoped or terminated; (4) Type C provides demonstrably better value for money or pace of build or coverage.

The Framework scope is expected to comprise up to c.500,000 premises, with a total estimated value of up to £800m. The average Call-Off Contract scope is anticipated to be between 50,000 and 150,000 premises. BDUK reserves the right to amend these figures to ensure that the framework can be used in accordance with criteria 1-4 above.

Call-Off contracts awarded under the Cross-Regional Framework will subsidise the design, build and operation of gigabit-capable supplier networks providing long-term, sustainable availability of wholesale gigabit broadband services in the hardest to reach parts of the UK.

BDUK issued a PIN on 18 August 2022 - ref 2022/S 000-023019 and on 5 January 2023 - ref 2023/S 000-000266 to discuss the Cross-Regional Framework.

Suppliers should consider the pre-qualification financial thresholds are reflective of the potential anticipated annual spend against the framework. They will also need to be able to demonstrate they can deliver gigabit-capable connectivity at pace and volume to support BDUK's 2025 and 2030 objectives.

### **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: £800,000,000

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

Start date

2 July 2024

End date

1 July 2028

This contract is subject to renewal

No

### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

### **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

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## **Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

### **III.1) Conditions for participation**

#### **III.1.2) Economic and financial standing**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

#### **III.1.3) Technical and professional ability**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

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

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

Restricted 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.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

29 August 2023

Local time

12:00pm

#### **IV.2.3) Estimated date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates**

9 October 2023

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

English

#### **IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender**

Duration in months: 6 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.3) Additional information**

All documents concerning the Cross Regional Supplier Framework and Call-Off Contracts Standard Selection Questionnaire (SQ), ITT and Framework Contract will be available to Suppliers via our e-tendering system. Suppliers must register onto the system to have access to view these documents. Registration is free to Suppliers and the link to the e-tendering site can be found here; <https://bduk.force.com/s/Welcome>

DSIT reserves the right not to award the Cross Regional Supplier Framework or associated Call-Off Contracts under this procurement, to cancel the procurement process at any time and to change the procurement process (including any requirement or deadline).

DSIT shall not be responsible for any costs, charges or expenses incurred by Suppliers and accepts no liability for any costs, charges or expenses in relation to the process to award the Framework or Call-Off Contracts, including if the procurement process is cancelled, amended or delayed.

Suppliers are advised that DSIT is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the "Act") If a Supplier considers that any of the information supplied as part of this procurement procedure should not be disclosed because of its commercial sensitivity, confidentiality or otherwise, it must, when providing this information, clearly identify the specific information it does not wish to be disclosed and clearly specify the reasons for its sensitivity. DSIT shall take such statements into consideration in the event that it receives a request pursuant to the Act which relates to the information provided by the interested party. Please note that it is not sufficient to include a statement of confidentiality encompassing all the information provided in the response.

DSIT will follow the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended) to award the Cross Regional Supplier Framework and Call-Off Contracts.

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

Royal Courts of Justice

Strand, Holborn



London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.find-court-tribunal.service.gov.uk/courts/royal-courts-of-justice>