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Award

## **Information Advice Quality Framework**

Welsh Government

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-022298

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-035b65

Published 12 August 2022, 2:02pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority/entity**

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

Welsh Government

Corporate Procurement Services, Cathays Park

Llandudno Junction

CF10 3NQ

#### **Contact**

James Roberts

#### **Email**

[james.roberts@gov.wales](mailto:james.roberts@gov.wales)

#### **Telephone**

+44 3000257095

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKL - Wales

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://gov.wales>

Buyer's address

[https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0007](https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0007)

**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**

Information Advice Quality Framework

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 72224200 - System quality assurance planning services

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

To lead on the work in the field of quality assurance of social welfare services to ensure the people of Wales access quality advice services

#### **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: £240,000

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

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

NUTS codes

- UKL - Wales

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

Manage all processes relating to the successfully operation of the Information and Advice Quality Framework for Wales (IAQF) Independent Assessment Service;

Process applications from Standard Owners to become an IAQF Accredited Body;

Provide Standard Owners with guidance and support on how to develop their standards and assurance processes to be aligned to the IAQF;

Provide guidance and support to organisations who are engaged in quality assurance audits and who aspire to develop their current service offer to become a Standard Owner and an IAQF Accrediting Body;

Promote the IAQF amongst Standard Owners, encouraging them to seek accreditation to the IAQF;

Develop and implement a Wales wide communication strategy to raise awareness of the IAQF amongst stakeholders.

#### **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 IV. Procedure

### IV.1) Description

#### IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

Negotiated procedure without prior publication

Justification for selected award procedure:

The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason: absence of competition

for technical reasons

Explanation:

This is a voluntary ex ante transparency notice and is intended to provide notice of the Authority's intention to award a contract to deliver quality assurance of social welfare services to ensure the people of Wales access quality advice services.

Welsh Government will observe a 30 day standstill period from the date of publication of this VEAT, during which time will not enter into a contractual agreement.

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the Official Journal of the European Union Justification for selected award procedure: Negotiated Procedure without competition

The procurement falls within the scope of application of the Directive: The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason: absence of competition for technical reasons

Welsh Government will observe a 30 day standstill period from the date of publication of this VEAT, during which time will not enter into a contractual agreement.

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the Official Journal

of the European Union Justification for selected award procedure: Negotiated Procedure without competition

The procurement falls within the scope of application of the Directive: The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason: absence of competition for technical reasons.

Historically this requirement has yielded limited, if any, responses from the marketplace other than the current incumbent. Therefore, it is not anticipated that a bid would be received should a competitive tendering exercise be administered. The cost of preparatory work would need to be included in costings of any new contractor, even if one was available to undertake this work as officials have tested the market by issuing a speculative notice with no interest. Speculative notices to test the marketplace were issued in August 2021 (two interested parties one being MBARC) and Spring 2022 (only one interested party – MBARC). From previous tendering exercises and more recent market engagement we are aware that there is a very limited market for this requirement.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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## **Section V. Award of contract/concession**

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract/concession**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

3 August 2022

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

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

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

MBARC Ltd

Unit 153, 88 Lower Marsh

London

SE1 7AB

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £240,000

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the Sell2Wales Web Site at

[https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/Search/Search\\_Switch.aspx?ID=123985](https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=123985).

(WA Ref:123985)

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

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

High Court

Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Telephone

+44 2079477501

Country

United Kingdom