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Award

Provision of Part 2 of the GDC Statutory Examination - Overseas Registration

General Dental Council

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-022846

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03141f

Published 23 July 2024, 2:05pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

General Dental Council

37 Wimpole Street

London

W1G 8DQ

Contact

Erica Williams

Email

procurement@gdc-uk.org

Telephone

+44 2071676000

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.gdc-uk.org

Buyer's address

www.gdc-uk.org

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Health Regulator

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Provision of Part 2 of the GDC Statutory Examination - Overseas Registration

Reference number

GDC-2017-001

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80000000 - Education and training services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The GDC intends to extend its existing contract for the Provision of Part 2 of the GDC Statutory Examination - Overseas Registration Examinations (ORE), from 1 April to 30 June 2025 to continue to fulfil the intentions of the original contract by supporting the delivery of examination services. This service under the ORE contract relates to “social and other specific services” listed in Schedule 3 to the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended) (PCR) and is therefore subject to the ‘light touch regime’ in accordance with Regulations 74 to 77 of the PCR. A procurement for a new contract to deliver examination services for the ORE Part 1 and Part 2 is already underway: Notice reference: 2024/S 000-014888. It is anticipated that the new contract will commence in 2025 for delivery of diets beyond April 2025.

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: £12,650,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKI - London

Main site or place of performance

LONDON

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The scope of services required include but is not limited to: Deliver the 4 components of the clinical examinations. Examinations venue within the UK -Provision of services, material, equipment, and personnel - qualified and experienced examiners -Project Management and administration -Candidate Management -Working with the GDC to ensure the examinations are delivered effectively and in accordance with the examination blueprint and Preparing for Practice and the ORE Advisory Group to ensure the relevant standard is maintained and the continuous improvement of the examination.

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

II.2.14) Additional information

A VEAT notice was issued in July 2023 (Notice reference: 2023/S 000-020320: that provided for up to 7 diets. The GDC contracted for 5 of the 7 diets (i.e. Nov 2023 to Nov 2024). As part of a change contract note, the GDC intends to commission the other 2 diets (i.e. Jan 2025 and Feb 2025) The GDC also intends to commission 1 additional diet which is the subject of this VEAT notice (April 2025).

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:

The Order 2023 (the Order) came into force on 8th March 2023. The reform that flows from the Order removed the need for the ORE to be provided by a dental authority. The changes could significantly amend the scope of the services and open up the market to new suppliers who were previously prohibited from bidding. Before the GDC can take advantage of the new flexibility, the GDC needed to develop and consult on a new set of rules. The final rules were published in Spring 2024. The extension includes an additional sum payable to the consortium to account for the management and delivery of up to 7 diets across 20 months and 3 days. The additional services had become necessary to continue to allow overseas registrations to continue until the implementation of the rules pursuant to the new Order to allow for a procurement for the services under the updated rules. A change of contractor cannot be made for economic or technical reasons. There is significant preparatory work required to set up the services. This is one of only two types of this exam currently offered in the UK for Overseas dentists. It requires specific technical expertise to run the exam that has to date not presented itself in the market. A change of contractor would cause significant impact and substantial duplication of costs to the GDC. The GDC has a statutory obligation to run the ORE and was required to pause the exam due to Covid 19 restrictions, this has caused a significant backlog of candidates. Candidates only have one five-year period to complete the ORE, they cannot re-apply. Therefore, they would not be able to practice in the UK and overtime may reduce to number of dental professional available to practice in the UK.

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.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2023/S 000-022724](#)

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

GDC-2017-001

Title

Provision of Part 2 of the GDC Statutory Examination - Overseas Registration

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

22 July 2024

V.2.2) Information about tenders

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

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

UCL Eastman Dental Hospital

256 Gray's Inn Road

London

WC1X 8LD

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

National registration number

N/A

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

The Royal College of Surgeons of England

35 - 43 Lincoln Inn Field

London

WC2A 3PE

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

National registration number

N/A

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

University College London

123 Gray's Inn Road

London

WC1X 8WD

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

National registration number

N/A

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Queen Mary University of London Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry

Institute of Dentistry of Turner Street

UK-London: Education and training services.

E1 2AD

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

National registration number

N/A

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £12,000,000

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £12,650,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The figure detailed at II.1.7) is an additional cost of circa £25K for each of the 2 diets under the previous VEAT and £600K for the 1 diet cover by this VEAT. Therefore, the GDC is extending the contract to provide for an additional 3 diets in total (January 2025, February 2025 and April 2025) to be delivered before the contract expires on 30 June 2025.

To view this notice, please click here:

<https://www.delta-esourcing.com/delta/viewNotice.html?noticeId=876189351>

GO Reference: GO-2024723-PRO-26965643

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

General Dental Council

37 Wimpole Street

London

W1G 8DQ

Email

procurement@gdc-uk.org

Telephone

+44 2071676282

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

General Dental Council

37 Wimpole Street

London

W1G 8DQ

Telephone

+44 2071676282

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained

General Dental Council

37 Wimpole Street

London

W1G 8DQ

Telephone

+44 2071676282

Country

United Kingdom