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Planning

Provision of Business Support Services to the Army Apprenticeship Programme- Update

Ministry of Defence

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-023430

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

Published 10 August 2023, 3:02pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Ministry of Defence

Army Headquarters, Blenheim Building,

Andover

SP11 8HT

Email

ArmyComrcl-Procure-AAP-Mailbox@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.army.gov.uk

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

Defence

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Provision of Business Support Services to the Army Apprenticeship Programme- Update

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80400000 - Adult and other education services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Update Further to notice reference 2023/S 000-022442 please find below additional information.

Following enquiries from interested parties:

The Authority assesses the eligibility of each bidding entity on their own merits. This will include considering the legal and business implications of any known, relevant, associations that exist with the Army Apprenticeships Programme.

Bidders against this future opportunity will be subjected to an assessment of Economic and Financial Standing. Details will be provided within the Invitation To Tender (ITT), and these will be in line with published Policy, Rules & Guidance.

Regarding protections against distortion of competition, and the statement that "... the contract cannot be held by any supplier in conjunction with any other subcontracted AAP requirements", this applies specifically to the legal entity (i.e. registered Company or equivalent VCSE). This does not automatically apply to associated entities (e.g. Other Companies within the same Group; members of Commercial Vehicles such as Consortia, Joint Ventures; etc.). We would however, expect such a bidder to provide a full explanation of (and assurance mechanism for) measures to prevent such distortions.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £9,287,889.60

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 72225000 - System quality assurance assessment and review services
- 75121000 - Administrative educational services
- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 80500000 - Training services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Prior Information Notice (PIN) of the Department's intention to procure a contract for Business Services Support (BSS) for the Army Apprenticeship Programme (AAP).

The Army Apprenticeship Programme (AAP) currently offers English Apprenticeships at Levels 2, 3, 4 and 6 with around 15,000 Apprentices on programme at any one time, primarily in UK locations but also overseas.

The AAP is predominately an Employer Provider using mixed delivery with subcontracted RoATP listed Service Providers (SP) covering some elements of Training and the majority of learner administration of the programme. The AAP is delivered in 13 separately governed and managed cap badge (eg Infantry) apprenticeship sub-programmes.

To support this mixed delivery model the AAP subcontracts Business Services Support to administration, delivery and quality assurance of apprenticeships against ESFA regulations.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

6 October 2023

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