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Tender

Legal Support Services (Fitness to Practise)

General Optical Council

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-024092

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0486a4

Published 1 August 2024, 10:40am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

General Optical Council

10 Old Bailey

London

EC4M 7NG

Contact

Vineeta Desai

Email

vdesai@optical.org

Telephone

+44 2078710411

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKI31 - Camden and City of London

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.optical.org

Buyer's address

https://www.mytenders.co.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA14321

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.3) Communication

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

<https://optical.org/en/about-us/get-involved/tenders/>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

www.mytenders.co.uk

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Legal Support Services (Fitness to Practise)

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79100000 - Legal services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The requirements of the service are:

Conduct of investigative work on the GOC's behalf in relation to fitness to practise allegations relating to registered opticians and optical businesses

Preparation for, and presentation, of the GOC's case at substantive Fitness to Practise Committee hearings

Occasional preparation for, and presentation of the GOC's case at non-substantive hearings (interim order applications/reviews/extensions, substantive order reviews) and Registration Appeal Committee hearings

Provision of advice relating to the conduct of individual investigations into the fitness to practise of GOC registrants, and relating to interpretation of GOC legislation and rules

Provision of training to Committee members, Case Examiners and GOC staff.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKI - London

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The requirements of the service are:

- Conduct of investigative work on the GOC's behalf in relation to fitness to practise allegations relating to registered opticians and optical businesses
- Preparation for, and presentation, of the GOC's case at substantive Fitness to Practise Committee hearings
- Occasional preparation for, and presentation of the GOC's case at non-substantive hearings (interim order applications/reviews/extensions, substantive order reviews) and Registration Appeal Committee hearings
- Provision of advice relating to the conduct of individual investigations into the fitness to practise of GOC registrants, and relating to interpretation of GOC legislation and rules
- Provision of training to Committee members, Case Examiners and GOC staff.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

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

Start date

1 April 2025

End date

31 March 2028

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

Three year contract from 1 April 2025 with an option to extend for one year

II.2.9) Information about the limits on the number of candidates to be invited

Envisaged minimum number: 5

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

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions for participation

III.1.1) Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers

List and brief description of conditions

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

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

III.2) Conditions related to the contract

III.2.1) Information about a particular profession

Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession

Reference to the relevant law, regulation or administrative provision

The service is a legal service.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they (or their organisation/team) possess the appropriate legal qualifications/authorisation to permit them to provide legal services.

III.2.2) Contract performance conditions

The service is governed by the Opticians Act 1989 (<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/44/contents>) and by the Legal Services Act

2007 (<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2007/29/contents>)

III.2.3) Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract

Obligation to indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to performing the contract

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.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2022/S 164-164710](#)

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

Date

2 September 2024

Local time

5:00pm

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

13 September 2024

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

English

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: Yes

Estimated timing for further notices to be published: Future recurrence of this procurement is unlikely to happen before October 2027

VI.2) Information about electronic workflows

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

VI.3) Additional information

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the myTenders Web Site at https://www.mytenders.co.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=232450.

The buyer has indicated that it will accept electronic responses to this notice via the Postbox facility. A user guide is available at https://www.mytenders.co.uk/sitehelp/help_guides.aspx.

Suppliers are advised to allow adequate time for uploading documents and to dispatch the electronic response well in advance of the closing time to avoid any last minute problems.

(MT Ref:232450)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Public Procurement Review Service

Cabinet Office

London

Email

publicprocurementreview@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 3450103503

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-procurement-review-service-scope-and-remit>

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

Public Procurement Review Service

Cabinet Office

London

Email

publicprocurementreview@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 3450103503

Country

United Kingdom