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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): ocids-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](mailto: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](http://www.optical.org)

Buyer's address

[https://www.mytenders.co.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA14321](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](http://www.mytenders.co.uk)

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

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Other activity

Healthcare Regulator

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## **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

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## **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

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## **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](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](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](mailto: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](mailto:publicprocurementreview@cabinetoffice.gov.uk)

Telephone

+44 3450103503

Country

United Kingdom