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Planning

## **Oldham Low Carbon Heat Network Joint Venture Partner (Oldham Green New Deal)**

Oldham Council

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-024540

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03f5b0

Published 21 August 2023, 4:46pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

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

Oldham Council

Civic Centre, West Street

OLDHAM

OL11UT

#### **Contact**

Emma Tweedie

#### **Email**

[Emma.Tweedie@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:Emma.Tweedie@oldham.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKD - North West (England)

**Justification for not providing organisation identifier**

Not on any register

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.oldham.gov.uk](http://www.oldham.gov.uk)

Buyer's address

[www.oldham.gov.uk](http://www.oldham.gov.uk)

**I.3) Communication**

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

[www.the-chest.org.uk](http://www.the-chest.org.uk)

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

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

Regional or local authority

**I.5) Main activity**

General public services

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Oldham Low Carbon Heat Network Joint Venture Partner (Oldham Green New Deal)

Reference number

DN683638

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 45000000 - Construction work

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Works

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

MARKET ENGAGEMENT STAGE: The Council is seeking a Joint Venture partner to deliver the Oldham Low Carbon District Heat Network project as part of the Oldham Green New Deal (OGND). An opportunity for a low carbon district heat network has been identified that delivers heat to council, public, commercial, and residential (including social housing) buildings in Oldham. The network will deliver approximately 30 GWh/a of heat across Oldham with potential expansion identified up to 60 GWh/a. The DHN proposed is an expansion of an existing St Mary's network with an additional Energy Centre at Rhodes Bank that utilises air source heat pump technology with potential for additional heat sources such as sewer source and minewater source, which are currently being explored.

The Council seeks responses from and engagement with; heat network developers / potential infrastructure partners (which can deliver the Oldham Low Carbon District Heat Network through a Joint-Venture partnership with the Council) in sufficient depth so as to enable the Council to proceed to tender stage.

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

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

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 09300000 - Electricity, heating, solar and nuclear energy
- 65000000 - Public utilities
- 71314000 - Energy and related services
- 71500000 - Construction-related services

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

NUTS codes

- UKD - North West (England)

Main site or place of performance

The borough of Oldham

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

**MARKET ENGAGEMENT:** The Council is seeking a Joint Venture partner to deliver the Oldham Low Carbon District Heat Network project as part of the Oldham Green New Deal (OGND). As the Council seeks to refine its approach and strategy; market engagement has been conducted previously (as outlined in the documents available to download) however, the purpose of this exercise is to engage with the market about the delivery of the Oldham Low Carbon District Heat Network (DHN):

An opportunity for a low carbon district heat network has been identified that delivers heat to council, public, commercial, and residential (including social housing) buildings in Oldham. The network will deliver approximately 30 GWh/a of heat across Oldham with potential expansion identified up to 60 GWh/a. The DHN proposed is an expansion of an existing St Mary's network with an additional Energy Centre at Rhodes Bank that utilises air source heat pump technology with potential for additional heat sources such as sewer source and minewater source, which are currently being explored.

The Council seeks responses from and engagement with; heat network developers / potential infrastructure partners (which can deliver the Oldham Low Carbon District Heat Network through a Joint-Venture partnership with the Council) in sufficient depth so as to enable the Council to proceed to tender stage.

The market engagement pack sets out the Council's thinking so far in terms of an approach for bringing private sector investment into the borough and achieving best value for existing projects and programmes which are already funded either by the Council, via external grant funding, or by the community energy sector.

For the avoidance of any doubt, this (Chest project reference DN683638) is a brand-new

market engagement exercise, fully independent of and separate to any previous soft market testing exercise previously conducted by the Council in 2021:

(<https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/025236-2021>) and 2022

(<https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/026347-2022?origin=Dashboard>)

The market engagement documents contain a significant amount of information to convey the background and future opportunity for the Oldham Low Carbon Heat Network Joint Venture Partner. They also contain a number of questions to which we would be very pleased and appreciative to receive responses to from any organisation interested in this opportunity, including any organisations which responded to the previous rounds of market engagement. There are significant differences in the content of this new market engagement pack (DN683638) compared with those previously issued as the Council works towards shaping its strategy for its planned procurement.

For the avoidance of any doubt this market engagement exercise will not serve as any kind of shortlisting. Future procurement documents will be made publicly available. Following the receipt of responses to this market engagement exercise, the Council reserves the right to hold discussions with any number of respondents where at its absolute discretion the Council considers further exploration or clarification of the content of their response would be beneficial.

The deadline for responses to the market engagement questions is 12.00 noon Tuesday 5th September 2023.

It is not possible at this stage to provide an indicative contract value for this opportunity. Please refer to the market engagement documents to understand the scale and duration of the opportunity for your own commercial estimations.

The Council cannot confirm future procurement dates at this stage for the Joint Venture partner but would hope to commence the procurement of an Independent Assurance Provider (IAP) before the end of 2023 with a view to making an IAP appointment before April 2024 ( <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/026273-2022?origin=Dashboard> ). The aim would then be to procure the Joint Venture partner without delay with the support of the IAP.

### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

13 May 2024

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## 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

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## Section VI. Complementary information

### VI.3) Additional information

All communication (queries or clarifications) including your response is to go through the Council's e-tendering portal [www.the-chest.org.uk](http://www.the-chest.org.uk) and not addressed directly to individual Oldham Council employees or any Council agent by email or otherwise.

The project reference is DN683638.

The deadline for responses to the market engagement questions is 12.00 noon Tuesday 5th September 2023.

The Chest - Tenderer Support

Go to <https://www.the-chest.org.uk/SupplierSupport.html>

Here you will see the hyperlink to log your issue / 'submit a ticket' for ProContract V3.

Alternatively you can log your call by emailing [ProContractSuppliers@proactis.com](mailto:ProContractSuppliers@proactis.com)

and a representative will contact you as soon as possible. For Critical and Time-

Sensitive issues you can call The Chest: 0330 005 0352.