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Tender

## NEPO311 Water Retail Services

THE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH EAST COUNCILS LIMITED

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-030274

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-045a16

Published 23 September 2024, 9:44am

### Section I: Contracting authority

#### I.1) Name and addresses

THE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH EAST COUNCILS LIMITED

Northern Design Centre, Abbots Hill, Baltic Business Quarter

Gateshead

NE8 3DF

#### Contact

Marie Forster

#### Email

[energy@nepo.org](mailto:energy@nepo.org)

#### Telephone

+44 1916380040

#### Country

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Justification for not providing organisation identifier**

Not on any register

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.nepo.org/>

**I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

**I.3) Communication**

Access to the procurement documents is restricted. Further information can be obtained at

<http://open-uk.org>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<http://open-uk.org>

**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**

NEPO311 Water Retail Services

Reference number

NEPO311

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

- 65100000 - Water distribution and related services

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

Services

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

The Association of North East Councils Trading as the North East Procurement Organisation (NEPO) Is seeking tenders for water retail services. At the time of submitting an SQ, and throughout the life of the Framework Agreement, tenderers must hold a valid Water Supply and Sewerage Licence with the appropriate retail authorisation, as issued by Ofwat. Also included within the scope of the Framework Agreement is the provision of Automatic Meter Reading and associated services and systems. The Framework Agreement will also include provisions for assisting in the reduction of consumption and supporting users efficiency schemes.

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £120,000,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

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

- 65000000 - Public utilities

- 71800000 - Consulting services for water-supply and waste consultancy

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

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

NEPO are using a two-stage, restricted procedure for this Framework Agreement. The first is a Selection Questionnaire which will be used to shortlist organisations. It should be noted that one of the key mandatory criteria at Selection Questionnaire stage is for organisations to hold a relevant Water Supply and Sewerage Licences with the appropriate retail authorisation, as issued by Ofwat. The Selection Questionnaire document also contains an ITT overview that sets out the high-level requirements of the Framework Agreement. This document will allow organisations to determine if they are interested in this opportunity and consider whether they have the required capability and capacity to deliver the Framework Agreement prior to submitting a Selection Questionnaire.

The Framework Contract will be a sole supplier Framework Contract with one Lot. Those organisations shortlisted from the Selection Questionnaire and invited to tender will be evaluated in accordance with Award Criteria contained within the Invitation to Tender documents.

The opportunity can be accessed via the NEPO eTender system (Open). Suppliers wishing to be considered for this Framework Contract must register their expression of interest and submit the selection questionnaire and tender response through the Open eTendering System. If not already registered, suppliers should register on the Open eTendering System at <https://www.open-uk.org/> Selection Questionnaire and Tender responses must be submitted using the link above.

Selection Questionnaire and Tender responses submitted via postal or email methods will not be accepted. If you need technical assistance from the Open Support team, this can be requested via [open.support@nepo.org](mailto:open.support@nepo.org)

PLEASE NOTE: Open is accessible 24/7 however, technical support is available Monday - Thursday 8:30 - 5pm and Friday 8.30 - 4.30pm For guidance on how to submit your response through Open, please visit <https://www.openhub.org/training> to access the available Training Guides.

### **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**

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

It is anticipated that this Framework Contract will be renewed prior to its conclusion.

Framework Contract Period: 36 months supply contract commencing 1st April 2025, with the option to extend for a further 1 x 12 months.

**II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

**II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

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**Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

**III.1) Conditions for participation**

**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

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## Section IV. Procedure

### IV.1) Description

#### IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Restricted procedure

#### IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with a single operator

#### 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: [2024/S 000-015569](#)

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

Date

23 October 2024

Local time

12:00pm

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

11 November 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

### VI.3) Additional information

NEPO is a Central Purchasing Body as defined in the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (PCR15). This means that NEPO may provide central purchasing activity on behalf of Contracting Authorities. The agreement will be available for use by all NEPO Members within the North East region. A list of member organisations is available in the About section of the NEPO website at:

[www.nepo.org](http://www.nepo.org)

This agreement will also be made available to all current and future NEPO Associate Members. Current Associate Members are listed in the Associate Member section of the NEPO website at:

<https://www.nepo.org/associate-members/list>

NEPO intends to make the resulting agreement available for use by all Contracting Authorities (as defined by the Public Contracts Regulations 2015) including but not limited to Government Departments and their Agencies, Non-Departmental Public Bodies, Central Government, NHS Bodies, Local Authorities, Emergency Services, Coastguard Emergency Services, Educational Establishments, Registered Social Landlords and Registered Charities who have a need to purchase the above services.

Please see the following websites for further details:

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DI1/Directories/Localcouncils/index.htm>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education>

<https://www.gov.uk/check-a-university-is-officially-recognised/recognised-bodies>

<http://www.schoolswebdirectory.co.uk/localauthorities.php>

<http://www.ukschoolsdirectory.net>

<https://www.gov.uk/find-school-in-england>

<http://apps.education-ni.gov.uk/appinstitutes/default.aspx>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/open-academies-and-academy-projects-indevelopment>

<http://unistats.direct.gov.uk/institutions/>

<http://www.hefce.ac.uk/workprovide/unicoll/heis/>

<http://www.hefce.ac.uk/workprovide/unicoll/fecs/>

<http://www.nhs.uk/ServiceDirectories/Pages/AcuteTrustListing.aspx>

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DI1/Directories/A-ZOfCentralGovernment/index.htm>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations>

<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/contact>

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/>

<http://www.police.uk/forces.htm>

<http://www.police-information.co.uk/index.html>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/maritime-and-coastguard-agency>

<http://www.fireservice.co.uk/information/ukfrs>

<http://www.fire.org.uk/fire-brigades.html>

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/current-registered-providers-of-socialhousing>

<http://apps.charitycommission.gov.uk/Showcharity/RegisterOfCharities/registerhomepage.aspx>

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/newsroom/factsandfigures/housingplanning1/facts/socialhousing/?id=1822644>

A complete list of permissible users is shown on the NEPO website below:

<https://www.nepo.org/associate-members/permissible-users>

Organisations wishing to access the NEPO agreement will be required to register as a NEPO Associate Member in the first instance.

Further information can be found at:

[www.nepo.org](http://www.nepo.org)

## **VI.4) Procedures for review**

### **VI.4.1) Review body**

NEPO

Northern Design Centre, Abbots Hill, Baltic Business Quarter

Gateshead

NE8 3DF

Email

[energy@nepo.org](mailto:energy@nepo.org)

Country

United Kingdom